# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

GEORGIA FIREFIGHTERS' PENSION FUND, Individually and on Behalf of All Others Similarly Situated,

: Civil Action No. 4:20-cv-00576

Plaintiffs,

V

ANADARKO PETROLEUM CORPORATION, R.A. WALKER, ROBERT G. GWIN, ROBERT P. DANIELS, and ERNEST A. LEYENDECKER, III,

Defendants.



EXPERT REPORT OF ALLEN FERRELL, PH.D.

December 10, 2021

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#### I. Qualification

- I am an economist and the Greenfield Professor of Securities Law at Harvard Law School. I received a Ph.D. in economics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology with fields in econometrics and finance and a J.D. from Harvard Law School. My Ph.D. dissertation concerned the relationship between stock prices and financial disclosures. After law school I clerked for Judge Silberman of the United States Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit and Justice Kennedy of the Supreme Court of the United States.
- 2. I am also a faculty associate at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard, a fellow at Columbia University's Program on the Law and Economics of Capital Markets, a research associate at the European Corporate Governance Institute, and a member of the editorial board of the Journal of Financial Perspectives. I formerly was a member of the Board of Economic Advisors to the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ("FINRA"), an academic fellow at FINRA, Chairperson of Harvard's Advisory Committee on Shareholder Responsibility (which was responsible for advising the Harvard Corporation on how to vote shares held by its endowment), the ABA Task Force on Corporate Governance, American Law Institute Project on the Application of U.S. Financial Regulations to Foreign Firms and Cross-Border Transactions, and an executive member of the American Law School section on securities regulation.
- 3. I have testified before the U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Securities, Insurance, and Investment and presented to, among others, the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"), the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the Structured Products Association, and the National Bureau of Economic Research. I have published approximately 30 articles in leading law and finance journals. I have also been an expert witness in a variety of securities matters. My testimony in the last four years and academic work are summarized on my curriculum vitae, which is attached hereto as Appendix A.
- 4. I have been assisted by Compass Lexecon staff in this matter. My analyses, opinions, and conclusions are based solely on the work performed by me, and those under my supervision, through the date of this report. I am being compensated for my work on this matter at an hourly rate of \$1,250, including for any testimony I may provide in this matter. I receive other compensation from Compass Lexecon based on a portion of staff billings. My compensation is not contingent upon my opinions and conclusions, or the outcome of this matter.

- 5. The materials I have considered are listed in Appendix B.
- 6. This report is subject to change or modification should additional relevant information become available which bears on the analysis, opinions, or conclusions contained herein. I may also seek to respond to opinions or analyses proffered by other experts. I further reserve the right to amend or supplement this report on instruction of counsel or as a result of any motion or court order that may impact the nature or scope of claims and issues in this litigation. I may also prepare illustrative exhibits based on the contents of this report if I am called upon to testify at trial.

## II. Background

- 7. Anadarko Petroleum Corporation ("Anadarko" or the "Company") was one of "the world's largest independent exploration and production companies." As of May 2, 2017, Anadarko had a market capitalization (i.e., Anadarko share price multiplied by its shares outstanding) of \$31 billion. The Company also reported revenues of \$7.9 billion in 2016 and assets of \$45 billion as of March 31, 2017.
- 8. Anadarko had a large portfolio of assets. As of the end of 2016, it had U.S. onshore assets in the lower 48 states and Alaska, "where the Company operate[d] approximately 12,700 wells and own[ed] interests in approximately 3,500 nonoperated wells." Anadarko also had exploration and production activities internationally, including in Algeria, Ghana, Mozambique, Colombia, and Côte d'Ivoire. In addition, as of December 31, 2016, "Anadarko own[ed] an average working interest of 70% in 327 blocks in the Gulf of Mexico, operat[ed] 10 active floating platforms, and h[eld] interests in 39 fields."

Anadarko Petroleum Corporation, Form 10-K, December 31, 2016 at p. 4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> ©2021 Center for Research in Security Prices (CRSP), The University of Chicago Booth School of Business.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Anadarko Petroleum Corporation, Form 10-K, December 31, 2016 at p. 86 & Anadarko Petroleum Corporation, Form 10-Q, March 31, 2017 at p. 5.

Anadarko Petroleum Corporation, Form 10-K, December 31, 2016 at pp. 4 & 7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Anadarko Petroleum Corporation, Form 10-K, December 31, 2016 at p. 4.

Anadarko Petroleum Corporation, Form 10-K, December 31, 2016 at p. 9

- 9. One of those 39 fields in the Gulf of Mexico was Shenandoah.<sup>7</sup> On February 4, 2009, Anadarko announced that "[t]he Shenandoah discovery well ... encountered net oil pay" and that "Anadarko and the co-owners of the discovery are evaluating the well results and the next steps toward future appraisal activity." Following this discovery, Anadarko subsequently drilled five appraisal wells in Shenandoah. Anadarko began drilling Shenandoah-2 ("Shen-2") in 2Q 2012, Shenandoah-3 ("Shen-3") in 2Q 2014, Shenandoah-4 ("Shen-4") in 2Q 2015, Shenandoah-5 ("Shen-5") in 1Q 2016, and Shenandoah-6 ("Shen-6") in 4Q 2016. <sup>10</sup>
- 10. By way of background, below I articulate certain basic facts about oil and gas exploration and production. These facts were publicly available to any market participant or observer, such as me. 11 Before reaching the development stage of an oil field (i.e., when oil is actually produced), exploratory wells are drilled followed by appraisal wells. The Shenandoah "discovery well" discussed above is an exploratory well and, as pointed out earlier, Shen-2 through Shen-6 were appraisal wells. While exploration drilling is "carried out to determine whether hydrocarbons are present in a particular area or structure," an appraisal well is drilled "to determine the physical extent and likely production rate of a field." The information from drilling an appraisal well is used to determine "the most efficient way of developing a discovery or whether it makes economic sense to drill at all." Appraisal wells have a higher chance of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Anadarko Petroleum Corporation, Form 10-K, December 31, 2016 at p. 9.

<sup>8 &</sup>quot;Anadarko Announces Another Deepwater Gulf of Mexico Discovery," Business Wire, February 4, 2009 (7:28 AM).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> All timestamps throughout the report are in Eastern time unless otherwise specified:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> "Cobalt International Energy, Inc. Announces Second Quarter 2012 Results and Successful Cameia #2 Appraisal Well Offshore Angola," *Business Wire*, July 31, 2012; Anadarko Petroleum Corporation, Form 10-K, December 31, 2014 at p. 9; Anadarko Petroleum Corporation, Form 10-K, December 31, 2015 at p. 10; Anadarko Petroleum Corporation, Form 10-K, December 31, 2016 at p. 11.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> I am not an oil and gas exploration industry expert and my discussion of this topic is a non-technical one.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission Glossary of Oil and Gas Terms, https://cogcc.state.co.us/COGIS\_Help/glossary.htm (last accessed December 9, 2021).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> "Back-to-basics: A guide to the different types of wells used by oil & gas companies," *Value the Markets*, September 11, 2019, <a href="https://www.valuethemarkets.com/analysis/back-to-basics-a-guide-to-the-different-types-of-wells-used-by-oil-gas-companies">https://www.valuethemarkets.com/analysis/back-to-basics-a-guide-to-the-different-types-of-wells-used-by-oil-gas-companies</a> (last accessed December 9, 2021).

finding hydrocarbons (i.e., not a "dry hole") and are more expensive than exploration wells.<sup>14</sup> The chance of success of an appraisal wells depends on the probabilities of several risk elements and "if any of the elements fail then we have an unsuccessful appraisal well."<sup>15</sup> The Shenandoah project had two dry holes (Shen-3 and Shen-6) and three that found oil (Shen-2, Shen-4, and Shen-5).<sup>16</sup>

- 11. In light of the Shenandoah project's riskiness, some analysts assigned a low to zero value to Shenandoah. For example, in a report dated July 6, 2015, despite acknowledging that "Shenandoah could be one of the largest GOM [Gulf of Mexico] discoveries," a Jefferies analyst gave "no credit" to Shenandoah in their "Risk-Adjusted Asset Value." 17
- 12. In addition, throughout the purported Class Period, Anadarko disclosed that, at then-prevailing oil prices, it was not going to sanction (i.e., would not develop) the Shenandoah project. For example, on April 12, 2016, a Wellington analyst (i.e., a buy-side analyst) noted:

<sup>14 &</sup>quot;Back-to-basics: A guide to the different types of wells used by oil & gas companies," Value the Markets, September 11, 2019 accessed at <a href="https://www.valuethemarkets.com/analysis/back-to-basics-a-guide-to-the-different-types-of-wells-used-by-oil-gas-companies">https://www.valuethemarkets.com/analysis/back-to-basics-a-guide-to-the-different-types-of-wells-used-by-oil-gas-companies</a>; Schlumberger Oilfield Glossary, <a href="https://glossary.oilfield.slb.com/en/Terms/d/dry.hole.aspx">https://glossary.oilfield.slb.com/en/Terms/d/dry.hole.aspx</a> (last accessed December 9, 2021) (defining "dry hole" as a "wellbore that has not encountered hydrocarbons in economically producible quantities.").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> A. Foum, "Risking Appraisal and Development Wells within Oil and Gas Fields," July 16, 2018, <a href="https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/risking-appraisal-development-wells-within-oil-gas-fields-alan-foum/">https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/risking-appraisal-development-wells-within-oil-gas-fields-alan-foum/</a> (last accessed December 9, 2021). The risk elements mentioned in the article are SCV (structure, contact, and volume), reservoir presence, reservoir effectiveness, hydrocarbon charge, and trap effectiveness.

data from the Shenandoah-2 well indicated excellent-quality reservoir and fluid properties. The targeted pay sands were full of oil with no oil-water contact."); ConocoPhillips 4Q 2014 Earnings Call Transcript, January 29, 2015 ("... some dry hole costs related to the Shenandoah appraisal well that we wrote off as well ..."); "Morning Energy Summary," Capital One, February 2, 2015, FIAM--ANAD-005012, at 5013 ("ConocoPhillips reported last Thurs that the 2<sup>nd</sup> appraisal well at Shenandoah was a dry hole."); "Anadarko Announces Third-Quarter 2015 Results," Anadarko Press Release, October 27, 2015; Anadarko Petroleum Corporation, Form 10-K, December 31, 2015 at p. 10; "Anadarko Announces Second-Quarter 2016 Results," Anadarko Press Release, July 26, 2016; "ConocoPhillips Reports First-Quarter 2017 Results; On Track to Delivery 2017 Operating Plan and Accelerate Value Proposition," ConocoPhillips Press Release, May 2, 2017 (7:00 AM) ("First-quarter earnings were negatively impacted by \$101 million of pre-tax dry hole expense, which includes the Shenandoah-6 well in the Gulf of Mexico.").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> "Oil & Gas Exploration & Production Reduce Nat Gas Price Outlook, Remain Constructive; Upgrade APC, NBL, EOG," Jefferies, July 6, 2015, JanHen\_00035055, at 5055 ("While we believe Shenandoah could be one of the largest GOM discoveries, we currently give no credit in our RAAV [Risk-Adjusted Asset Value] due to needed improvements in drilling technology (new build drillships with dual 20k PSI BOPs), which are unlikely to be available in the near-term."). See infra ¶ 69 for more examples.

"The operator [Anadarko] is on record saying they wouldn't sanction [Shenandoah] until oil was back in the \$70's given where costs are today." 18

- 13. Ultimately, Anadarko announced the suspension of appraisal activity in Shenandoah in its 1Q 2017 earnings release and 1Q 2017 Form 10-Q after market close on May 2, 2017. Specifically, on May 2, 2017 at 4:16 PM, Anadarko issued a press release noting that it "recently completed drilling operations at the Shenandoah-6 appraisal and sidetrack well, which did not encounter the oil-water contact in the eastern portion of the field" and that the "company has currently suspended appraisal activity in the field while it evaluates the path forward." Then, a few minutes later at 4:26 PM, Anadarko filed its 1Q 2017 Form 10-Q with the SEC. In that Form 10-Q, Anadarko disclosed that "[d]uring the three months ended March 31, 2017, the Company expensed suspended exploratory well costs of \$435 million related to the Shenandoah project in the Gulf of Mexico" and that it would recognize \$467 million of impairments related to the Shenandoah project. In the Shenandoah project.
- 14. Shortly after the filing of its Form 10-Q, news that linked a cut abandoned gas flow line leading from an Anadarko well to a fatal house explosion in Firestone, Colorado was disclosed. At 4:51 PM on May 2, 2017, the *Denver Post* reported that fire investigators found a fatal house explosion on April 17, 2017 in Firestone, Colorado was caused by odorless gas seeping from a cut-off underground pipeline running from an Anadarko well into the house.<sup>22</sup> Soon after the firefighters released their report, then Colorado Governor John Hickenlooper ordered oil and gas companies statewide to inspect and pressure-test oil and gas flowlines within

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Email from Mark N. Viviano at Wellington dated April 12, 2016 re "Marathon (MRO,1,\$8B): great WY sale but negative Shenandoah comp for APC/CIE, WMC-APC-0000317, at 0321. See infra ¶ 70 for more examples.

<sup>19 &</sup>quot;Anadarko Announces First-Quarter 2017 Results," Anadarko Press Release, May 2, 2017 (4:16 PM)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Timestamp per SEC.gov, https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/00000773910/0000077391017000033/0000773910-17-000033-index.htm (last accessed December 9, 2021).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Anadarko Petroleum Corporation Form 10-Q, March 31, 2017, at pp. 13 & 37.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> "Deadly Firestone explosion caused by odorless gas leaking from cut gas flow pipeline," *Denver Post*, May 2, 2017 (4:51 PM).

1,000 feet of occupied buildings.<sup>23</sup> Related to this incident, Anadarko shut down 3,000 of its older, vertical oil and gas wells in northeastern Colorado as a precaution.<sup>24</sup> In response to this news, at 5:18 PM, Anadarko issued a statement that it would "continue to cooperate fully with all ongoing investigations" and that it would "continue to work with the Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission (COGCC) on additional steps or actions the agency deems necessary."<sup>25</sup> Analysts had an adverse reaction to this news. For example, a Macquarie analyst noted that "[t]he findings of the Firestone investigation are a clear negative for Anadarko" and that "Colorado is already one of the most stringently regulated states in the nation in respect to energy and is likely to see increased pressure following this incident."<sup>26</sup> One analyst estimated that at a cost of \$100,000 per well, the total remediation cost alone could be \$140 million.<sup>27</sup>

#### III. Plaintiffs' Allegations and the Steinholt Report

15. Plaintiffs filed this lawsuit on behalf of purchasers of Anadarko common stock from February 20, 2015 through May 2, 2017 (the purported "Class Period") alleging that, "[I]eading up to and throughout the Class Period, Defendants engaged in a fraudulent scheme through various means and methods that operated as a deception on the investing public concerning the size and commercial viability of the Shenandoah project and a whistleblower complaint about Defendants' multi-billion dollar securities fraud." Plaintiffs claim that the "lack of commercial viability of the Shenandoah project was first revealed to the market in Anadarko's 1Q 2017 Form 10-Q," which was filed after market close on May 2, 2017. Specifically, Plaintiffs claim that Anadarko's announcement that it was writing off \$435 million

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> "Deadly Firestone explosion caused by odorless gas leaking from cut gas flow pipeline," *Denver Post*, May 2, 2017 (4:51 PM).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> "Deadly Firestone explosion caused by odorless gas leaking from cut gas flow pipeline," *Denver Post*, May 2, 2017 (4:51 PM).

<sup>25 &</sup>quot;Anadarko Issues Statement Regarding Firestone Accident," Anadarko Press Release, May 2, 2017 (5:18 PM).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> "Where do we go from here?," Macquarie Research, May 3, 2017, at pp.1-2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> "Colorado is Not Macondo," Credit Suisse, May 3, 2017.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> Amended Complaint for Violations of The Federal Securities Laws, No. 4:20-vc-00576, U.S. District Court, Southern District of Texas, Houston Division, filed August 17, 2020 ("Complaint") at ¶ 29.

<sup>29</sup> Complaint ¶ 152.

in expensed suspended exploratory well costs and taking a \$467 million impairment of the Shenandoah asset revealed Shenandoah's "lack of commercial viability" to the market.<sup>30</sup>

16. Plaintiffs submitted the expert report of Bjorn I. Steinholt, CFA, dated October 1, 2021 ("Steinholt Report"). In that report, Mr. Steinholt concludes that "the market in which Anadarko common stock traded throughout the Class Period was impersonal, open, well developed, and efficient in that the market prices quickly responded to incorporate and reflect new, material information as it became publicly available" and "it was reasonable for investors to rely on the integrity of the market prices of Anadarko's common stock throughout the Class Period as reflecting all publicly available information about the Company." As part of his analysis, Mr. Steinholt claims "to assess 'cause and effect' relating to Company-specific information" by examining "Anadarko's price reactions following the alleged corrective disclosure after the market closed on May 2, 2017." Mr. Steinholt finds that "[f]ollowing Anadarko's May 2, 2017 disclosure about Shenandoah, Anadarko's stock price declined ... \$4.33 per share, or 7.69%" on May 3, 2017 and that this price decline "was statistically significant at the 1% level." Mr. Steinholt also opines that "class-wide damages can be calculated in this case using the event-study damages framework." 34

# IV. Assignment and Summary of Opinions

17. I was asked by Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP, counsel for Defendants, to analyze whether the alleged misstatements identified in the Complaint and their purported correction with the revelation of the alleged truth had a price impact on Anadarko's stock price. I have also been asked to consider Mr. Steinholt's statements regarding his claimed ability to calculate class-wide damages in this case. In performing this task, I have been assisted by staff at Compass Lexecon. Based on my review of the materials in **Appendix B**, I have formed the following opinions:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3/1</sup> Complaint ¶ 152.

<sup>31</sup> Steinholt Report. 9.

<sup>32</sup> Steinholt Report, ¶ 41-42.

<sup>33</sup> Steinholt Report, ¶ 44.

<sup>34</sup> Steinholt Report. ¶ 10.

- a. On 18 out of the 21 alleged misstatement dates identified in the Complaint,<sup>35</sup> there was no statistically significant price increase.<sup>36</sup> On the remaining three alleged misstatement dates, the Shenandoah disclosures on these dates were stale and, as such, assuming markets are efficient, I would not expect Anadarko's stock price to react to these Shenandoah disclosures.<sup>37</sup> Moreover, on these three dates, market commentators attributed Anadarko's stock price increase to factors unrelated to Shenandoah.<sup>38</sup>
- b. There is no reliable economic basis to conclude that the alleged Anadarko May 2, 2017 corrective disclosures about Shenandoah had a price impact on Anadarko's stock price. Specifically:
  - i. Anadarko's disclosure after market close on May 2, 2017 that Shen-6 was a dry hole was previously disclosed by ConocoPhillips, a partner of Anadarko in Shenandoah with a similar percentage of ownership in the project, before market open on May 2, 2017.<sup>39</sup> On May 2, 2017, both ConocoPhillips's and Anadarko's stock price reactions were not statistically significant.<sup>40</sup> This indicates that the disclosure that Shen-6 was a dry hole could not have had an impact on Anadarko's stock price on May 2, 2017.
  - ii. Similarly, Anadarko's disclosures of the suspension of appraisal activity at Shenandoah and the impairment of the value of Shenandoah did not result in a statistically significant price reaction by ConocoPhillips's stock price on May 3, 2017 or when ConocoPhillips itself disclosed similar information on May 5, 2017.<sup>41</sup> This indicates that the Shenandoah disclosures could not have had an impact on Anadarko's stock price on May 3, 2017.
  - iii. The disclosure about a fire and explosion related to an Anadarko well in Firestone, Colorado explains Anadarko's price decline on May 3, 2017. Market commentary and the price declines on May 3, 2017 of the stock prices of the other oil firms that operated in Colorado, which were also affected by the new Colorado

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>35</sup> Complaint ¶¶ 97-141.

<sup>36</sup> See Table 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> Two of Plaintiffs' claims on these dates are mistaken. Infra ¶¶ 36 & 38.

<sup>38</sup> Infra ¶¶ 36-50.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> "ConocoPhillips Reports First-Quarter 2017 Results; On Track to Deliver 2017 Operating Plan and Accelerate Value Proposition," *Business Wire*, May 2, 2017 (7:00 AM).

<sup>40</sup> See Table 2.

<sup>41</sup> See Table 3 and 4.

inspection and testing mandate, explain Anadarko's price decline on May 3, 2017.<sup>42</sup>

- c. The lack of price impact of the alleged misstatements as well as the alleged corrective disclosure is consistent with the economic nature of the disclosures. As discussed earlier, Anadarko's disclosures throughout the purported Class Period as well as contemporaneous market participant commentary reveal that the market was aware of the inherent riskiness of the appraisal stage of the project. Moreover, even if successful, the Shenandoah project's economic viability was dependent on oil prices, which were not at levels that would have made the project viable when the alleged misstatements and the alleged corrective disclosure were made. 43
- d. With regards to Mr. Steinholt's statements regarding his ability to calculate class-wide damages in this case, Mr. Steinholt has stated that he will use the same approach (his "event-study damages framework") to damages regardless of whether the theory of liability is a (i) materialization of an undisclosed risk or (ii) the company knew from the outset that Shenandoah was not viable (i.e., the risk of failure was a certainty). 44 Indeed, Mr. Steinholt testified that it was irrelevant for him to know what Plaintiff's theory of liability is. 45 How his "event study damages framework" applies to two very different theories concerning what constitutes corrective information (information concerning the undisclosed risk of failure versus information that the project was going to fail with certainty) is left entirely unexplained.
- 18. I elaborate on the above opinions in the rest of this report.

# V. Scientific Foundations for Price Impact Analysis

19. I will begin by providing an overview of stock price behavior and efficient markets before turning to the appropriate analytical framework for conducting a price impact analysis.

#### A. Stock Price Behavior and Efficient Markets

20. In an efficient market, finance theory dictates that stock prices reflect the expected future cash flows of a company. 46 These expectations are influenced by market,

<sup>42</sup> Infra ¶¶ 64-66.

<sup>43</sup> Infra ¶¶ 70-72.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>44</sup> Virtual Deposition of Bjorn Steinholt, November 17, 2021 ("Steinholt Dep. Tr.") 60:11-61:9.

<sup>45</sup> Steinholt Dep. Tr. 69:8-17.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>46</sup> R. Brealey and S. Myers, 2003, Principles of Corporate Finance (McGraw-Hill/Irwin), pp. 60-61.

industry, and company-specific factors. In an efficient market, stock prices reflect the total mix of publicly available information regarding these expected future cash flows.<sup>47</sup> Publicly available information containing such value-relevant information can encompass everything from a company's public SEC filings to newspaper articles.

- 21. A central tenet of the efficient market hypothesis is that as new information becomes public, stock prices "quickly and fully" reflect that information. <sup>48</sup> Therefore, only disclosures of information that significantly alter the total mix of publicly available information impact the price of a stock. Only new public information will necessitate a revision of the company's expected future cash flows and the risk thereof and, hence, result in a changed stock price. In other words, only new information is "news" in an efficient market, as previously known or expected information would have already been incorporated into the stock price of a security in an efficient market. <sup>49</sup> Moreover, in an efficient market, new relevant information would be expected to impact any company to which such information is value relevant, regardless of who released the information. <sup>50</sup>
- 22. The academic literature has explored how "quickly" new information is "fully" reflected in the stock price in an efficient market. Numerous academic studies indicate that an efficient market's reaction to new events is immediate and unbiased. 51 As stated in the Steinholt Report, Anadarko common stock traded in an efficient market during the purported Class

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>47</sup> R. Brealey, S. Myers, and A. Marcus, 2004, Fundamentals of Corporate Finance, McGraw-Hill/Irwin, p. 165.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>48</sup> C. Jones, 2013, Investments: Analysis and Management, John Wiley & Sons, Inc. p. 320.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>49</sup> See, e.g., E. Elton, M. Gruber, S. Brown, and W. Goetzmann, 2003, Modern Portfolio Theory and Investment Analysis, John Wiley & Sons, Inc. p. 403.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>50</sup> See., e.g., G.W. Schwert, 1981, "Using Financial Data to Measure Effects of Regulation," Journal of Law and Economics, Vol. 24, 129-135.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>51</sup> See, e.g., S.P. Kothari, 2001, "Capital Markets Research in Accounting," Journal of Accounting and Economics, Vol. 31, 105-231; L. Ederington, and J.H. Lee, 1995, "The Short-Run Dynamics of the Price Adjustment to New Information," Journal of Financial and Quantitative Analysis, Vol. 30, 117-134; J. Busse and T.C. Green, 2002, "Market Efficiency in Real Time," Journal of Financial Economics. Vol. 65, 415-437; N. Visaltanachoti and T. Yang, 2010, "Speed of Convergence to Market Efficiency for NYSE-listed Foreign Stocks," Journal of Banking and Finance, Vol. 34, 594-605; A. Černý, 2004, "Stock Market Integration and the Speed of Information Transmission," Working Papers Series – Charles University, 1-25.

Period.<sup>52</sup> For the purposes of my analysis, I have assumed that Anadarko common stock traded in an efficient market during the purported Class Period.

- 23. There is a widely used and generally accepted statistical framework known as an event study for testing whether there was, in fact, a stock price movement associated with the disclosure of new value-relevant public information.<sup>53</sup> An event study controls for market and industry effects (estimated with the use of market and industry indices) on the stock price, thereby isolating the portion of the stock price movement that is company-specific (the "abnormal return").<sup>54</sup>
- 24. The event study examines whether the observed abnormal, or company-specific, return of a stock over a given time interval (i.e., "event window") is outside the range of typical random stock price fluctuations observed for that stock.<sup>55</sup> An event window that compares the closing price on the prior day to the closing price on the day on which the new information was disclosed is typical.<sup>56</sup> The Steinholt Report filed by Plaintiffs likewise uses this typical market-close to market-close time window for the event study conducted therein.<sup>57</sup>
- 25. If the abnormal return falls outside the range that accounts for the typical random stock price fluctuations (i.e., a "confidence interval"), it is considered to be statistically significant. If the stock price movement is indistinguishable from random price fluctuations (i.e., falls within the confidence interval), the movement is fully explainable by movements in the

<sup>52</sup> Steinholt Report, ¶ 9.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>53</sup> See, e.g., A. Ferrell and A. Saha, 2007, "The Loss Causation Requirement for Rule 10b-5 Causes-of-Action: The Implication of Dura Pharmaceuticals v. Broudo," *The Business Lawyer*, Vol. 63, 163-186.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>54</sup> See, e.g., R. Weil, et al., 2007, Litigation Services Handbook: The Role of the Financial Expert, John Wiley & Sons, Inc., Appendix A, p. 18.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>55</sup> To control for market and industry effects, a regression analysis is employed in order to predict the company's stock return based on the observed market and industry returns. The residual return is then the difference between the company's actual stock return and the return predicted by the regression model. See, e.g., R. Weil, et al., 2007, Litigation Services Handbook: The Role of the Financial Expert, John Wiley & Sons, Inc., Appendix A, p. 19.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>56</sup> A different event window than the typical close-to-close window may be appropriate depending on the facts and circumstances, such as an event window that runs from market-close to market-open. See, e.g., L. Ederington and J.H. Lee, 1995, "The Short-Run Dynamics of the Price Adjustment to New Information," Journal of Financial and Quantitative Analysis, Vol. 30, 117-134.

<sup>57</sup> Steinholt Report, Exhibit D.

market and industry and cannot be attributed to the new company-specific information announced on the event date.<sup>58</sup> An abnormal return is typically considered "statistically significant" in an event study if it lies outside the 95% confidence interval (i.e., lies outside the range that accounts for 95% of random price fluctuations).<sup>59</sup> An abnormal return that falls outside of the 95% confidence interval is considered to be significant at the 5% level.

- 26. In order to test whether an observed abnormal return is significant at the 5% level, a "t-statistic" is calculated by dividing the abnormal return by the standard error of the regression. The probability of observing a given t-statistic by random market fluctuations is then measured. This probability is known as a "p-value." The lower the p-value, the less likely it is that the price movement is a result of random market fluctuations. Thus, it is when the p-value is 5% (i.e., 0.05) or less that the abnormal return is considered statistically significant. In conducting his event studies on the dates he studied, Mr. Steinholt likewise used 5% as the applicable standard.
- 27. The analysis of stock price behavior does not end with a finding of a statistically significant abnormal return from an event study. Suppose that an event study finds a statistically significant abnormal return that is contemporaneous with a public disclosure of firm-specific information. In order to attribute the stock price movement to the public disclosure, there is still another crucial step in the analysis. As one textbook explains:

An event study can tell us that something happened, but it can't tell us why. To explain positive or negative abnormal returns, we must closely examine the events and institutions involved...The event study technique does not eliminate the need to assess cause through deductive reasoning; it only...helps delineate what needs to be explained.<sup>62</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>58</sup> See, e.g., C. Corrado, 2011, "Event Studies: A methodology review," Accounting and Finance, Vol. 51, 209-211.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>59</sup> Using a 95% confidence interval for determining statistical significance is a standard metric for event studies. *See* Federal Judicial Center, 2011, *Reference Manual on Scientific Evidence*, National Academies Press, 2011, 320 ("In most scientific work, the level of statistical significance required to reject the null hypothesis (i.e., to obtain a statistically significant result) is set conventionally at 0.05, or 5%.").

<sup>60</sup> See, e.g., J. Wooldridge, 2013, Introductory Econometrics: A Modern Approach, Cengage Learning, 130.

<sup>61</sup> Steinholt Report, ¶ 41.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>62</sup> R. Gilson and B. Black, 1995, *The Law and Finance of Corporate Acquisitions*, Foundation Press, 221 (emphasis in original).

- 28. For example, if the particular disclosure at issue was simply repeating information already known to the market, a researcher could not attribute, consistent with efficient markets, an abnormal return regardless of whether it happens to be statistically significant to such a disclosure. Disclosures that simply repeat information already known to the market or that pertain to matters that are irrelevant to market participants would not cause a revision in the company's expected future cash flows or the risks thereof and, hence, would not affect its stock price.
- 29. Another example is when there are multiple pieces of information disclosed contemporaneously on a day when an event study finds a statistically significant price movement. In such cases, an event study analysis alone cannot determine which piece of information was value-relevant. Moreover, even when there are multiple pieces of value-relevant information, an event study analysis cannot parse out the price impact of the multiple pieces of information.

## B. Price Impact and the Alleged Truth

- 30. The price impact inquiry is focused on stock price reactions to a particular type of disclosure: the alleged truth. Specifically, the price impact inquiry consists of analyzing the following hypothetical: if the company had revealed to the market the alleged truth rather than concealing it by making the alleged misstatements would such a disclosure have resulted in a stock price movement? If so, the alleged misstatements have price impact. It is crucial to emphasize that the "alleged truth" that could and should have been disclosed earlier the focal point of the price impact inquiry is a function of Plaintiffs' theory of liability. Once the truth that had been allegedly misstated and concealed has been identified by Plaintiffs, a financial economist can then apply the scientific framework discussed above, including event study analysis, to test for price impact.
- 31. To apply the scientific framework discussed above to this question, the standard approach then is to analyze the stock price behavior when the alleged misstatements and disclosures actually occurred. If the alleged misstatements in fact caused the market to view the company more favorably than before (and presumably more favorably than if it had been told the alleged truth that was being concealed), then one would expect to observe a positive and statistically significant abnormal return on these dates. In a similar vein, a researcher should

analyze stock price behavior when the alleged truth was actually disclosed (the "corrective disclosures").

# C. Price Impact of Shenandoah Disclosures on Anadarko and Price Reaction of ConocoPhillips

- 32. In this case, we have an additional method to test whether Shenandoah disclosures had a price impact on Anadarko's stock - ConocoPhillips's stock price reaction on the dates of the Shenandoah disclosures, During the Class Period, Anadarko and ConocoPhillips had similar working interests in Shenandoah. Anadarko had a 30% working interest in Shenandoah at the start of the purported Class Period, but its ownership later increased to 33% on July 27, 2016 and remained at that level through the end of the purported Class Period. 63 By comparison, ConocoPhillips had a 30% working interest in Shenandoah during the entire purported Class Period. 64 Therefore, given Anadarko's and ConocoPhillips's similar level of ownership in Shenandoah, I would expect new value-relevant Shenandoah information to affect both Anadarko and ConocoPhillips. Consistent with this, Mr. Steinholt testified that one can look at the price reaction of ConocoPhillips to determine whether disclosures related to Shenandoah would affect Anadarko. 65 In light of the above, in my analysis of alleged misstatement dates and alleged corrective disclosures below, I use the price reaction, if any, of ConocoPhillips as an additional test of whether new value-relevant information related to Shenandoah would have a price impact on Anadarko.
- 33. I will now apply the scientific framework discussed above to assess whether there was a price impact on Anadarko's common stock price associated with the alleged misstatements. I will do so in two steps. First, I will assess whether the alleged misstatements in the Complaint caused a price impact when made by analyzing whether they caused positive and statistically significant abnormal returns on those dates. Second, I will assess whether the alleged

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>63</sup> Anadarko Petroleum Corporation SEC Form 10-K, December 31, 2013 at p. 9 & Anadarko Petroleum Corporation SEC Form 10-K, December 31, 2016 at p. 11.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>64</sup> ConocoPhillips SEC Form 10-K, December 31, 2014 at p. 8 & ConocoPhillips SEC Form 10-K, December 31, 2016 at p. 7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>65</sup> Steinholt Dep. Tr. 13:15-21 ("Q: You said that the corrective disclosure here was unexpected. What's your basis for saying that?" A: "It's by reading analyst reports, by reading or by looking at the rection by other partners, Cobalt and Conoco Philips [sic].").

corrective disclosure concerning Shenandoah that supposedly revealed the truth caused a price impact at the time it was made.

# VI. Analysis of Alleged Misstatement Dates

34. Plaintiffs identified 21 alleged misstatement dates in the Complaint. **Table 1** below details the results of the event study regression analysis for each of the alleged misstatement dates. Specifically, it reports for each alleged misstatement date Anadarko's abnormal return, the associated t-statistic, and whether the abnormal return is statistically significant at the 5% level (i.e., whether the absolute value of the t-statistic is greater than or equal to 1.96).

Table 1
Regression Results for Alleged Misstatements

	Timestamp	Event	Statistics	Results
	JAJ	[B]	[C]	[D]
1	02/20/15 4:35 PM (Price Reaction Date: 02/23/15)	Anadarko files 2014 Form 10-K. (Complaint ¶ 97-99)	Abnormal Return t-Statistic Positive and Stat. Significant?	0.63% 0.48 No
2	03/03/15 8:50 AM (Price Reaction Date: 03/03/15)	Anadarko issues capital expectations and guidance press release and hosts 2015 capital program and guidance conference call with investors and analysts.  (Complaint \$\frac{40}{3}\$ 101-103)	Abnormal Return t-Statistic Positive and Stat. Significant?	0.39% 0.30 No
3	5/4/15 4:22 PM (Price Reaction Date: 5/5/15)	Anadarko files 1Q 2015 Form 10-Q. (Complaint ¶ 104)	Abnormal Return t-Statistic Positive and Stat. Significant?	-2.20% -2.31 No
	5/5/15 9:00 AM (Price Reaction Date: 5/5/15)	Anadarko hosts 1Q 2015 earnings call. (Complaint § 105)		
4.	5/20/15 9:30 AM (Price Reaction Date: 5/2015)	Anadarko hosts the UBS Global Oil and Gas Conference. (Complaint § 106)	Abnormal Return t-Statistic Positive and Stat. Significant?	-0.73% -0.77 No
5	7/28/15 4:05 PM (Price Reaction Date: 7/29/15)	Anadarko issues 2Q 2015 press release. (Complaint ¶ 107)	Abnormal Return t-Statistic Positive and Stat. Significant?	2.98% 3.44 Yes

	7/29/15 9:00 AM (Price Reaction Date: 7/29/15)	Anadarko hosts 2Q 2015 earnings call. (Complaint ¶ 108)		
6	10/27/15 4:05 PM (Price Reaction Date: 10/28/15)	Anadarko issues 3Q 2015 press release. (Complaint ¶ 109)	Abnormal Return t-Statistic Positive and Stat. Significant?	-2.67% -2.98 No
	10/28/15 9:00 AM (Price Reaction Date: 10/28/15)	Anadarko 3Q 2015 earnings call (Complaint ¶¶ 110-112)		
7	11/11/15 10:18 AM (Price Reaction Date: 11/11/15)	Anadarko hosts call with investors and analysts. (Complaint ¶ 113)	Abnormal Return t-Statistic Positive and Stat. Significant?	-0.00% -0.00 No
8	2/2/16 9:00 AM (Price Reaction Date: 2/2/16)	Anadarko hosts 4Q 2015 carnings call. (Complaint ¶ 114)	Abnormal Return t-Statistic Positive and Stat. Significant?	7.36% 5.53 Yes
9	2/17/16 6:29 AM Price Reaction Date: 2/17/16)	Anadarko files 2015 Form 10-K. (Complaint ¶¶ 115-118)	Abnormal Return t-Statistic Positive and Stat. Significant?	-0.10% -0.07 No
10	2/24/16 10:40 AM (Price Reaction Date: 2/24/16)	Credit Suisse Energy Summit with investors and analysts. (Complaint ¶ 119)	Abnormal Return t-Statistic Positive and Stat. Significant?	-0.46% -0.31 No
11	3/1/16 8:50 AM (Price Reaction Date: 3/1/16)	Anadarko issues 2016 initial capital expectations and guidance press release. (Complaint ¶ 120)	Abnormal Return t-Statistic Positive and Stat. Significant?	3.91% 2.58 Yes
12	5/3/16 9:00 AM (Price Reaction Date: 5/3/16)	Anadarko hosts 1Q 2016 carnings call. (Complaint ¶ 121)	Abnormal Return t-Statistic Positive and Stat. Significant?	0.74% 0.45 No
13	5/11/16 9:00 AM (Price Reaction Date: 5/11/16)	Citi Global Energy & Utilities Conference with investors and analysts. (Complaint ¶ 123)	Abnormal Return t-Statistic Positive and Stat. Significant?	1.21% 0.72 No

		Secure Security and Company of the		20020
14	5/24/16	UBS Global Oil and Gas Conference with	Abnormal Return	0.61%
	1:55 PM	investors and analysts. (Complaint 🏋	1-Statistic	0.36
	(Price Reaction	124-126)	Positive and Stat. Significant?	No
	Date: 5/24/16)			
15	6/28/16	JPMorgan Inaugural Energy Conference	Abnormal Return	-0.89%
	9:40 AM	with investors and analysts. (Complaint	t-Statistic	-0.52
	(Price Reaction	19 127-128)	Positive and Stat. Significant?	No
	Date: 6/28/16)	0.55		
16	7/26/16	Anadarko issues 2Q 2016 press release.	Abnormal Return	0.08%
	4:05 PM	(Complaint § 131)	1-Statistic	0.05
	(Price Reaction	(Compliant   151)	Positive and Stat. Significant?	No
	Date: 7/27/16)		Tushine and out. Digitaleum.	
	7/26/16	Anadarko files 2Q 2016 Form 10-Q		
	4:54 PM	(Complaint \$\mathbb{T} 129-130).		
	(Price Reaction	(		
	Date: 7/27/16)			
	7/27/2016	Anadarko hosts 2Q 2016 conference call.		
	9:00 AM	(Complaint \$\foating 132-133)		
	(Price Reaction	(23.0p.m.m. #) 122-3-3-7		
	Date: 7/27/16)			
17	8/16/16	EnerCom Oil & Gas Conference with	Abnormal Return	0.13%
•	4:45 PM	investors and analysts. (Complaint ¶ 134)	t-Statistic	0.07
	(Price Reaction	mission and analysis (complaint   121)	Positive and Stat. Significant?	No
	Date: 8/17/16)			
18	9/14/16	UBS Houston Energy Bus-Less Tour	Abnormal Return	-1.56%
10	12:00 PM	with investors and analysts. (Complaint *	1-Statistic	-0.89
	(Price Reaction	135)	Positive and Stat. Significant?	No
	Date: 9/14/16)	150)	1 osibve and otal, organicalit;	1.0
19	11/01/16	Anadarko hosts 3Q 2016 earnings call	Abnormal Return	1.54%
13	9:00 AM	with investors and analysts. (Complaint	t-Statistic	0.88
	(Price Reaction	136)	Positive and Stat. Significant?	No
	Date. 11/01/16)	1307	r osis ve and otal. Organican	1.0
20	2/01/17	Anadarko hosts 4Q 2016 carnings call	Abnormal Return	-1.02%
20	9:00 AM	with investors and analysts. (Complaint §	t-Statistic	-0,68
	(Price Reaction	137)	Positive and Stat. Significant?	No
	Date: 2/1/17)			1.1
21	2/17/17	Anadarko files 2016 Form 10-K	Abnormal Return	0.24%
-	6:35 AM	(Complaint % 138-140)	1-Statistic	0.17
	(Price Reaction	The the substant contribution of the second of the second	Positive and Stat. Significant?	No
	Date: 2/17/17)		The state of the s	

Sources: Complaint, ¶ 97-99, 101-121, 123-140; Ferrell Report Appendix D. The sources for date and timestamp information are listed in Appendix B.

35. As the table above shows, on 18 out of the 21 dates, Anadarko's stock price did not increase by a statistically significant amount. On the three dates when Anadarko's stock price

did increase by a statistically significant amount, I find that those stock price increases were attributed to factors unrelated to Shenandoah. I discuss each of these three dates with statistically significant price increases in turn below.

#### A. July 28, 2015

- 36. Plaintiffs claim that Anadarko's press release on July 28, 2015 after market close contained the alleged misstatement that Anadarko had "[a]chieved large-scale project milestones in the Gulf of Mexico." However, this sentence does not refer to Shenandoah, but rather to Lucius, a different Gulf of Mexico facility. In the same press release, Anadarko disclosed that Lucius "achieved name-plate capacity of 80,000 BOPD with production stabilizing during the quarter." The only reference to Shenandoah in this press release appears two paragraphs later, with a paragraph about Anadarko's Mozambique liquefied natural gas project in between. Therefore, Plaintiffs' claim is mistaken.
- 37. Plaintiffs also claim that Anadarko's press release contained the alleged misstatement that "Anadarko spud its third appraisal well in the Shenandoah field." However, investors were already aware that Anadarko planned to drill its third appraisal well during 2Q 2015. For example, in Anadarko's 2014 Form 10-K, the Company stated: "Planning is underway for the next appraisal well, which the Company expects to spud in the second quarter of 2015." Assuming an efficient market, Anadarko's stock would not react to the disclosure of this stale or expected information.
- 38. Plaintiffs also claim that Anadarko's statement during a July 29, 2015 2Q 2015 conference call contained the alleged misstatement that "Coronado is part of the Shenandoah mini-basin. We've got a discovery there that we have appraised. So we think we've got a pretty good handle on what it is. We recently picked up our blocks again; we had some expiries that we had to put back in, and then picked them back up. That's going to stay that way until we have a

<sup>66</sup> Complaint ¶ 107 & Table 1.

<sup>67 &</sup>quot;Anadarko Announces Second-Quarter 2015 Results," PR Newswire, July 28, 2015 (4:05 PM).

<sup>68 &</sup>quot;Anadarko Announces Second-Quarter 2015 Results," PR Newswire, July 28, 2015 (4:05 PM).

<sup>69</sup> Complaint ¶ 107.

<sup>70</sup> Complaint ¶ 97.

Shenandoah development put in place, because we see it as a tie-back through that facility."<sup>71</sup>
However, this alleged misstatement does not refer to the Shenandoah project, but rather to
Coronado, a different appraisal project located in the Shenandoah basin. In its 2013 Form 10-K,
Anadarko stated: "In the Shenandoah basin in Walker Ridge, discoveries were successfully
drilled at Coronado (35% working interest)."<sup>72</sup> Therefore, Plaintiffs' claim is mistaken.

- 39. As further confirmation of this result, I evaluated the price impact of the alleged Shenandoah misstatements by analyzing whether such statements had a price impact on ConocoPhillips, which did not have other firm-specific, value relevant news on this date. ConocoPhillips had a 30% interest in the Shenandoah project and, thus, value-relevant Shenandoah news would impact both Anadarko's stock price as well as ConocoPhillips's stock price. However, my event study finds that ConocoPhillips's stock did not have a statistically significant price increase on this date, which demonstrates the lack of a price impact of the alleged Shenandoah misstatements on Anadarko's stock.
- 40. I also reviewed available analyst reports on Anadarko to determine whether the alleged misstatements could have had a price impact on Anadarko's stock. 74 I reviewed 30 reports (issued by 26 different analyst firms, including 17 analyst firms identified by Mr. Steinholt) on Anadarko published after the alleged misstatement during July 28-29, 2015 and found that Shenandoah was not mentioned in 22 of the 30 analyst reports (73%). 75 In the

<sup>71</sup> Complaint ¶ 108

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>72</sup> Anadarko Petroleum Corporation SEC Form 10-K. December 31, 2013 at p. 9.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>73</sup> ConocoPhillips had a 30% interest and Anadarko had a 33% interest. ConocoPhillips Form 10-K, December 31, 2016 at p. 7 & Anadarko Petroleum Corporation Form 10-K, December 31, 2016 at p. 11.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>74</sup> Mr, Steinholt specifically identifies 27 analyst firms in his report. Steinholt Report, ¶27. For my review of analyst reports published during July 28-29, 2015 (as well as February 2-3 and March 1-2, 2016 discussed below). I obtained Anadarko reports from the Capital IQ, FactSct, Refinitiv and Eikon databases published by the analyst firms identified by Mr. Steinholt. I then supplemented this set with additional reports available from these databases (i.e., issued by analyst firms not identified by Mr. Steinholt) and with reports provided to me by counsel for Defendants that were not available from these databases (e.g., Goldman Sachs analyst reports). The reports I reviewed are listed in Appendix B.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>75</sup> The analyst firms that published reports during July 28-29, 2015 that do not mention Shenandoah are Atlantic Equities; Barclays Capital, Inc.; Bernstein; BMO Capital Markets; Capital One; CFRA Equity Research; Evercore ISI; Goldman Sachs; Guggenheim Securities; Johnson & Rice; Morgan Stanley; Morningstar: Oppenheimer; Raymond James & Associates: RBC Capital Markets (4 Reports); Scotiabank; Simmons & Company (Piper Sandler); and Wells Fargo Securities, LLC (2 reports).

remaining eight reports (27%), none of the analysts mentioned Shenandoah when adjusting estimates or price targets. <sup>76</sup> I also reviewed the analyst commentary within these reports and found that analysts overwhelmingly reported that Anadarko exceeded earnings, oil production, and cash flow expectations during the quarter, rather than the alleged misstatements. For example, a Wells Fargo analyst that did not mention Shenandoah stated "Takeaway: Positive. Strong quarter big EPS beat on crude production and lower expenses." Likewise, an Atlantic Equities analyst that did not mention Shenandoah reported: "Strength in domestic oil output... driven by the Lucius and Wattenberg projects allied to good cost control helped push results ahead of guidance and consensus." Similarly, an RBC analyst that did not mention Shenandoah stated that they "expect APC shares to trade higher due to the strong cash flow and operational update." In addition, a Barclays analyst that did not mention Shenandoah noted that they "believe investors will react positively to Anadarko's 2Q15 earnings and operational update."

41. I also searched for press articles related to Anadarko on July 28-29, 2015. Based on my review of these news articles, I did not find articles that attributed Anadarko's price increase on July 29, 2015 to the alleged misstatement. I did however find press articles that reported that Anadarko's strong earnings and production report, rather than the alleged misstatements related to Shenandoah, were the reasons behind the price increase on July 29, 2015. For example, *The Financial Times* reported: "Investors pushed shares of Anadarko Petroleum higher after the US oil and gas company reported an unexpected profit in the second

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>76</sup> The analyst firms that published reports during July 28-29, 2015 that mention Shenandoah are: Bank of America Merrill Lynch; Cowen and Company; Deutsche Bank; Global Hunter Securities; GMP Securities; Societe Generale; UBS; and Wolfe Research.

<sup>77 &</sup>quot;APC: Positive—Strong Crude Production, Lower Expenses," Wells Fargo, July 28, 2015, APC-00186483, at 6483.

<sup>78 &</sup>quot;Strong US oil output and good cost control, Atlantic Equities," July 29, 2015.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>79</sup> "APC – 2Q15 Earnings Beat; Oil Production Outlook Increased," RBC Capital Markets, July 28, 2015 (5:33 PM), JanHen\_00040613, at 0613.

<sup>80 &</sup>quot;APC: Strong Beat Driven by Liquids Volumes," Barclays, July 28, 2015, APC-00186477, at 6477.

<sup>81</sup> Specifically, I searched the Lexis-Nexis and Factiva databases for news articles with "Anadarko" in the headline and lead paragraph.

quarter, amid the protracted drop in crude prices, by boosting oil production but keeping operating costs low."82

42. Given the above, the price movement in Anadarko's stock cannot be ascribed to the alleged misstatements on this date.

## B. February 2, 2016

- 43. Plaintiffs claim that Anadarko made the following misstatement in its February 2, 2016 earnings call: "These other longer-dated projects [such as Shenandoah], we believe today are worthy of spending capital, expecting that oil is not going to be at \$30 for the rest of our life" (bracketed text is part of original quote). So Investors were already aware that Anadarko planned to invest in longer-dated projects despite low oil prices. On October 28, 2015, the company had stated: "Given the challenging supply and demand fundamentals and continued uncertainty around sustainably longer oil prices -- sustainably higher oil prices, you can expect us to see continued investment in higher percentage longer cycle opportunities, such as exploration, where we achieved some very encouraging early results offshore Colombia as well as success delineating our activities at Shenandoah." Assuming an efficient market, Anadarko's stock would not react to the disclosure of this stale or expected information.
- 44. Similar to the July 28, 2015 alleged misstatements, I evaluated the price impact of the alleged misstatement on this date by analyzing whether this misstatement had a price impact on ConocoPhillips, which did not have other firm-specific, value relevant news on this date. My event study finds that ConocoPhillips's stock did not have a statistically significant price increase on this date, which demonstrates the lack of a price impact of the alleged Shenandoah misstatement on Anadarko's stock.
- 45. I also reviewed available analyst reports on Anadarko to determine whether the alleged misstatement could have had a price impact on Anadarko's stock. I reviewed 24 reports (issued by 20 different analyst firms, including 13 analyst firms identified by Mr. Steinholt) on Anadarko published after the alleged misstatement during February 2-3, 2016 and found that

<sup>82 &</sup>quot;Anadarko jumps after earnings surprise," Financial Times, July 29, 2015 (2:05 PM).

<sup>83</sup> Complaint ¶ 114.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>84</sup> Anadarko Petroleum FQ3 2015 Earnings Call Transcript, October 28, 2015.

Shenandoah was not even mentioned in 14 of 24 analyst reports (58%). 85 In the remaining 10 reports (42%), none of the analysts mentioned Shenandoah when adjusting estimates or price targets. 86 I also reviewed the analyst commentary within these reports and found that analysts focused on Anadarko performance in the preceding quarter, rather than the alleged misstatements. For example, a Barclays analyst wrote that "[w]e expect a positive reaction to Anadarko's 4Q15 earnings release and operational update. APC posted earnings and cash flow numbers that were above both Barclays' and consensus." Similarly, a Jefferies analyst wrote: "Positive initial take on 4Q release on better than expected EPS on higher volumes and lower costs." Likewise, a Capital One analyst stated: "Positive. 4Q results were solid, and more importantly, APC's preliminary CAPEX guidance of \$2.8B is much closer to our \$2.5B est than the Street's \$4.5B est, so the projected outspend should be significantly lower than most expect. This should be welcome news." 89

46. I also searched for press articles related to Anadarko on February 2-3, 2016. 90
Based on my review of these news articles, I did not find articles that attributed Anadarko's price increase on February 2, 2016 to the alleged misstatement. I did however find press articles that reported that Anadarko's earnings report, rather than the alleged misstatement, can explain the price increase on February 2, 2016. For example, as *Reuters News* explained: "Shares of [Anadarko] rose 2.8 percent to \$29.30 in Tuesday afternoon trading after the dividend comments assuaged concerns about Anadarko's cash management. The company also posted better-than-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>85</sup> The analyst firms that published reports during February 2-3, 2016 that do not mention Shenandoah are: Atlantic Equities; CFRA Equity Research (2 reports); Goldman Sachs; Guggenheim Securities LLC Macquarie Research; Morningstar; Raymond James & Associates; RBC Capital Markets; Scotiabank Global Banking and Market; Simmons & Company (Piper Sandler) (2 reports); Wells Fargo Securities, LLC (2 Reports).

<sup>86</sup> The analyst firms that published reports during February 2-3, 2016 that mention Shenandoah are: Barclays Capital, Inc; BMO Capital Markets; Bank of America Merrill Lynch; Credit Suisse; Johnson & Rice; MUFG Securities Americas Inc; Societe Generale; UBS (2 reports); and Wolfe Research.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>87</sup> "APC Cuts 2016 Budget 50% vs. 2015. Will Discuss 2016 Outlook on Conference Call Tomorrow, but Detailed Guidance to Come March 1st," Barclays, February 1, 2016.

<sup>88 &</sup>quot;Solid Q4 Operating Results, Prelim Capex Down 50%," Jefferies, February 1, 2016, JEFF00007303, at 7303.

<sup>89 &</sup>quot;APC 4Q A Quick Take," Capital One, February 2, 2016.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>90</sup> Specifically, I searched the Lexis-Nexis and Factiva databases for news articles with "Anadarko" in the headline and lead paragraph.

expected results late on Monday." Additionally, *TheStreet.com* reported: "Anadarko Petroleum Corp. shares are rallying 4.26% to \$39.88 in after-hours trading Monday following the company's fourth quarter fiscal 2015 earnings results reported today after the closing bell. During the latest quarter, the company reported a loss of 57 cents a share, better than Wall Street's expectations of a loss of \$1.09 a share."

47. Given the above, the price movement in Anadarko's stock cannot be ascribed to the alleged misstatement on this date.

#### C. March 1, 2016

- 48. Plaintiffs claim that Anadarko's press release on March 1, 2016 before the market open contained the alleged misstatement that Anadarko "plans to advance existing discoveries through appraisal activities at Shenandoah." Investors were already aware that Anadarko planned to "advance" with appraisals of Shenandoah. On February 24, 2016, Anadarko stated that "we still are advancing the project, but we're a ways away from a sanction at Shenandoah. Assuming an efficient market, Anadarko's stock would not react to the disclosure of this stale information. As further evidence, ConocoPhillips's stock did not have a statistically significant price increase on this date, which demonstrates the lack of a price impact of the alleged Shenandoah misstatement on Anadarko's stock.
- 49. I also reviewed available analyst reports on Anadarko to determine whether the alleged misstatement could have had a price impact on Anadarko's stock. I reviewed 25 reports (issued by 22 different analyst firms, including 17 analyst firms identified by Mr. Steinholt) on Anadarko published after the alleged misstatement during March 1-2, 2016 and found that Shenandoah was not even mentioned in 17 of 25 analyst reports (68%). 95 In the remaining eight

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>91</sup> "UPDATE 1-Anadarko says it may cut dividend due to high yield," *Reuters News*, February 2, 2016 (2:21 PM).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>92</sup> "Anadarko Petroleum (APC) Stock Pops in After-Hours Trading on Improving Quarterly Earnings, *The Street.com*, February 1, 2016 (4:30 PM).

<sup>93</sup> Complaint ¶120.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>94</sup> Anadarko Petroleum Company Conference Presentation, February 24, 2016.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>95</sup> The analyst firms that published reports during March 1-2, 2016 that do not mention Shenandoah are: Acquisdata; Cowen and Company (2 reports); Deutsche Bank; Guggenheim Securities LLC; Jefferies; Johnson & Rice; Macquarie Research; Morgan Stanley; Morningstar; MUFG Securities Americas Inc.;

reports (32%), none of the analysts mentioned Shenandoah when adjusting estimates or price targets. Halso reviewed the analyst commentary within these reports and found that analysts focused on Anadarko's capital program for 2016, rather than the alleged misstatement. For example, a Capital One analyst stated: "APC's official '16 guidance & investor call this morning offered few surprises, but mgmt did reiterate the company has no plans or need to issue new equity and it essentially upsized the asset sale/monetization program to \$2.0B - \$3.0B vs \$1.3B already announced so far this year." Likewise, a Johnson Rice analyst explained that "[w]ith the major parameters of 2016 guidance already disclosed, one of the most important things Anadarko did with its guidance call was put another punctuation mark on its declaration that they did not see a need to raise equity in the near term. 98

50. I also searched for press articles related to Anadarko on March 1-2, 2016. 99 Based on my review of these news articles, I did not find articles that attributed Anadarko's price increase on March 1, 2016 to the alleged misstatement. I did however find press articles that reported that Anadarko's earnings report, rather than the alleged misstatement, can explain the price increase on March 1, 2016. For example, *TheStreet.com* reported that "Anadarko Petroleum stock is rising 6.38% to \$40.37 in afternoon trading on Tuesday, as the oil and gas producer plans to reduce 2016 capital spending by roughly half." Also, *Benzinga* reported that "[s]hares

RBC Capital Markets (2 reports); Simmons & Company (Piper Sandler); Societe Generale; and Wells Fargo Securities, LLC (2 reports).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>96</sup> The analyst firms that published reports during March 1-2, 2016 that mention Shenandoah are: Barclays Capital, Inc; Bank of America Merrill Lynch; Capital One; Credit Suisse; Evercore ISI; Scotiabank Global Banking and Market; UBS and Wolfe Research.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>97</sup> "APC: '16 Guidance and Investor Call Recap," Capital One Securities, March 1, 2016, FIAM-ANAD-008678, at 8678.

<sup>98 &</sup>quot;Targeting \$700MM to \$1.5B in Add'l Asset Sales, Building Liquidity into 2H16," Johnson Rice & Company, March 2, 2016.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>99</sup> Specifically, I searched the Lexis-Nexis and Factiva databases for news articles with "Anadarko" in the headline and lead paragraph.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>100</sup> "Anadarko Petroleum (APC) Stock Surges, Slashes Capital Budget by Half," The Street.com, March 1, 2016 (1:16 PM).

of Anadarko Petroleum Corporation (NYSE: APC) were trading higher by nearly 5 percent Tuesday afternoon after the company announced its 2016 capital program." <sup>101</sup>

51. Given the above, the price movement in Anadarko's stock cannot be ascribed to the alleged Shenandoah misstatement on this date.

#### VII. Analysis of the Alleged Corrective Disclosure Date

- 52. I will now analyze whether the alleged corrective disclosures concerning Shenandoah caused a negative price impact. Consistent with the scientific framework I described at the beginning of my report, my analysis consists of both assessing whether a disclosure is value-relevant new public information and, moreover, whether there was in fact a negative statistically significant abnormal return associated with such a disclosure. I find no reliable economic evidence that the alleged corrective disclosures concerning Shenandoah had a price impact on Anadarko's stock.
- 53. Before delving into my analysis, I first address Mr. Steinholt's claim that he "examined Anadarko's price reactions following the alleged corrective disclosure after the market closed on May 2, 2017" and found the "May 3, 2017 residual decline in Anadarko's stock price was statistically significant at the 1% level," suggesting that the alleged corrective disclosure concerning Shenandoah had a price impact. Mr. Steinholt seems to have backtracked at his deposition when he testified that he was actually not referring specifically to the Shenandoah disclosures but he was "referring to the totality of the information disclosed in that particular day." In any case, Mr. Steinholt's analysis is flawed. Mr. Steinholt assumed in his report that all of the information contained in the alleged corrective disclosures concerning Shenandoah was new. But at his deposition, Mr. Steinholt testified he was aware that the disclosure that Shen-6 was a dry hole was not new, as it had been disclosed earlier by ConocoPhillips. Mr. Steinholt also testified that he was aware that the disclosures about the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>101</sup> "Investors Are Bullish On Anadarko Petroleum Following 2016 Capital Program," Benzinga, March 1, 2016 (7:53 PM).

<sup>102</sup> Steinholt Report, ¶¶ 42 & 44.

<sup>103</sup> Steinholt Dep. Tr. 47:17-19.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>104</sup> Steinholt Dep. Tr. 51:18-20 ("If your point is that Conoco Philips [sic] had some reference to the Shenandoah number 6, well, I'm aware of that....").

suspension of appraisal activity at Shenandoah and the impairment of the value of Shenandoah would have a similar impact on ConocoPhillips, 105 yet he failed to take that into consideration. Similarly, Mr. Steinholt testified that he was aware that the news linking an Anadarko well to a house explosion in Colorado that was also disclosed after market close on May 2, 2017 would have a similar impact on Noble Energy, yet again he failed to take that into consideration. 106 In short, Mr. Steinholt's suggestion that the alleged corrective disclosures had a price impact is flawed.

Anadarko after market close on May 2, 2017: (1) that Shen-6 was a dry hole; (2) that Anadarko was suspending appraisal activity at Shenandoah; and (3) that Anadarko was taking an impairment charge related to the Shenandoah project. <sup>107, 108</sup> With respect to the disclosure that Shen-6 was a dry hole, this information was stale as of May 3, 2017 as ConocoPhillips had disclosed before market open on the previous day that "[f]irst-quarter earnings were negatively impacted by \$101 million of pre-tax dry hole expense, which includes the Shenandoah-6 well in the Gulf of Mexico." <sup>109, 110</sup> On the day the information regarding Shen-6 was disclosed, Anadarko's stock price did not have a statistically significant price change. <sup>111</sup> See Table 2. The above demonstrates that Anadarko's subsequent disclosure that Shen-6 was a dry hole did not

<sup>105</sup> Steinholt Dep. Tr. 13:15-21.

<sup>106</sup> Steinholt Dep. Tr. 28:8-12.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>107</sup> "\*Anadarko Pete 1Q Loss/Shr 58c > APC," Dow Jones Institutional News, May 2, 2017 (4:16 PM); Anadarko Petroleum Corporation Form 10-Q, March 31, 2017 at p. 37.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>108</sup> In his deposition, Mr. Steinholt testified that he didn't think the alleged corrective disclosures concerning Shenandoah was particularly complex and that it would have been incorporated into the stock price within one day. See Steinholt Dep. Tr. 12:22-13:5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>109</sup> "ConocoPhillips Reports First-Quarter 2017 Results; On Track to Deliver 2017 Operating Plan and Accelerate Value Proposition," *Business Wire*, May 2, 2017 (7:00 AM).

Anadarko and ConocoPhillips had similar stakes in the Shenandoah project. ConocoPhillips had a 30% interest and Anadarko had a 33% interest. ConocoPhillips Form 10-K, December 31, 2016 at p. 7 & Anadarko Petroleum Corporation Form 10-K, December 31, 2016 at p. 11.

significant price decline on May 2, 2017. Steinholt Dep. Tr. 16:3-23 ("Q. Right, but just sitting here today, do you know what the Conoco Philips [sic] stock price rection was on the day of the Anadarko corrective disclosure? ... A ... I don't think there was a statistically significant price decline on either of those two days ... when Conoco Philips [sic] announced their first quarter earnings or when Anadarko announced their first quarter earnings.").

have a price impact on Anadarko's stock on May 3, 2017, assuming Anadarko's stock traded in an efficient market as Mr. Steinholt claims.

Table 2
Stock Price Reaction of Anadarko, ConocoPhillips, and Cobalt on May 2, 2017

•		Anadarko	ConocoPhillips	Cobalt
Raw Return	[A]	-0.69%	-1.64%	-4.40%
Predicted Return(1)	[B]	-1.00%	-0.89%	-2.45%
Abnormal Return	[C = A - B]	0.31%	-0.75%	-1.95%
t-Statistic	[D]	0.28	-0.68	-0.35
Statistically Significant?(2)	[E]	No	No	No

Notes: (1) Ferrell Report Appendix D. (2) Statistical significance at the 5% level is denoted by a t-statistic with an absolute value of 1.96 or greater.

- Shenandoah dry hole disclosure after market close on May 2, 2017 was stale. For example, a JPMorgan analyst noted: "As previously highlighted by its partners, the Shenandoah-6 appraisal well designed to test the oil-water contact on the eastern edge of the field was unsuccessful, and APC has decided to suspend appraisal activity at the field." Similarly, an Evercore analyst described it as "a massive (not completely unexpected) write down at Shenandoah." In an efficient market, if there was a price impact on Anadarko's stock related to the disclosure that Shen-6 was a dry hole, one would observe such a price reaction on May 2, 2017, not May 3, 2017. Yet, as **Table 2** shows, Anadarko's stock did not have a statistically significant price change on May 2, 2017. In addition, the table also reflects that both ConocoPhillips and Cobalt, another partner of Anadarko in Shenandoah, also did not have statistically significant price changes on May 2, 2017.
- 56. With respect to Anadarko's disclosures regarding the suspension of appraisal activity at Shenandoah and the impairment of the value of Shenandoah, the price impact, if any,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>112</sup> "IQ17 Flash: Unfortunately, It's Déjà Vu All Over Again; Stock Reaction Mixed – ALERT," J.P. Morgan, May 2, 2017, FIAM-ANAD-009291, at 9292.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>113</sup> "In the Teeth of the Transition, 1Q Outlook Poses Challenges to the Thesis," Evercore ISI, May 3, 2017, APC-00737551 at 7551.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1)4</sup> The methodology for the Anadarko, ConocoPhillips, and Cobalt event studies are described in **Appendix D**.

of these disclosures would have been observed on May 3, 2017. As **Table 3** shows, Anadarko had a statistically significant price decline on that day. However, as discussed above, there were multiple pieces of news that were disclosed contemporaneously by Anadarko, including news unrelated to the Shenandoah project.

Table 3
Stock Price Reaction of Anadarko, ConocoPhillips, and Cobalt on May 3, 2017

		Anadarko	ConocoPhillips	Cobalt
Raw Return	[A]	-7.69%	0.81%	-11.38%
Predicted Return(1)	[B]	0.21%	0.10%	0.12%
Abnormal Return	[C = A - B]	-7.91%	0.71%	-11.26%
t-Statistic	[D]	-7.11	0.64	-2.01
Statistically Significant?(2)	[E]	Yes	No	Yes

Notes: (1) Ferrell Report Appendix D. (2) Statistical significance at the 5% level is denoted by a t-statistic with an absolute value of 1.96 or greater.

57. In order to properly assess the price impact of Anadarko's disclosures regarding the suspension of appraisal activity at Shenandoah and the impairment of the value of Shenandoah, I analyzed the price movement of ConocoPhillips, which did not have other firm-specific value-relevant news on May 3, 2017. As the table above shows, there was no statistically significant price change in ConocoPhillips's stock price on May 3, 2017, which demonstrates the lack of a price impact of the alleged corrective disclosures on Anadarko's stock. 115 Appendix C presents the data on the nine factors Mr. Steinholt used to test the market efficiency of Anadarko as applied to ConocoPhillips. Based on this data, Mr. Steinholt's methodology would have concluded that ConocoPhillips's common stock would have traded in an efficient market during the purported Class Period.

significant price decline on May 3, 2017. Steinholt Dep. 16:3-23 ("Q. Right, but just sitting here today, do you know what the Conoco Philips [sic] stock price rection was on the day of the Anadarko corrective disclosure? ... A ... I don't think there was a statistically significant price decline on either of those two days ... when Conoco Philips [sic] announced their first quarter earnings or when Anadarko announced their first quarter earnings.").

I also reviewed analyst reports and news articles on Cobalt to identify firm-58. specific news that could have had a price impact on Cobalt's stock price on May 3, 2017. 116 I found that leading up to the May 2, 2017 alleged corrective disclosures concerning Shenandoah, Cobalt was experiencing near-term liquidity constraints, was at risk of being delisted from the New York Stock Exchange, and its ability to continue as a going concern was in doubt. 117, 118 Cobalt's most-recent Form 10-K filed March 14, 2017 contained a going concern opinion from Cobalt's auditor stating that "[t]he Company has near-term liquidity constraints that raises substantial doubt about its ability to continue as a going concern." 119 Also on March 14, 2017, Cobalt announced plans to sell its 20% interest in Shenandoah and announced plans to open a virtual data room for such a purpose. 120 Following this disclosure, a Deutsche Bank analyst noted that the company was opening a "data room for Shenandoah...to address liquidity/funding concerns". 121 On April 26, 2017, one week prior to the alleged corrective disclosures about Shenandoah on May 2, 2017, Cobalt restructured its debt, giving noteholders "about 50 cents on the dollar for their old notes," further demonstrating Cobalt's continued liquidity issues. 122 On May 2, 2017, one day prior to the alleged corrective disclosure, Cobalt's stock price was trading at \$0.37 per share, which implies a market capitalization of \$167 million, or 1/189th of the size of Anadarko's \$31.4 billion market capitalization. 123

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>116</sup> Cobalt had a 20% working interest at Shenandoah. Cobalt International Energy, Inc. Form 10-K, December 31, 2016 ("Cobalt 2016 Form 10-K") at p. 6.

<sup>117</sup> Cobalt 2016 Form 10-K, at p. 55. In its 2016 Form 10-K, Cobalt also disclosed that it was out of compliance with the New York Stock Exchange's ("NYSE") minimum share price requirement because the average closing price of its common stock had fallen below \$1.00 per share over a period of 30 consecutive days, and therefore was at risk of being delisted from the NYSE.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>118</sup> While Cobalt may technically pass Mr. Steinholt's factors for market efficiency, it is also true that Cobalt was experiencing significant near term liquidity constraints, was at risk of being delisted from the New York Stock Exchange, and its ability continue as a going concern was in doubt.

<sup>119</sup> Cobalt 2016 Form 10-K, at F-4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>120</sup> "Cobalt International Energy Plans to Sell 20% Interest In Shenandoah Oil Field, Offshore Gulf of Mexico," *Marketline*, March 14, 2017; Cobalt International Energy, Inc. FQ4 2016 Earnings Call Transcripts, March 14, 2017.

<sup>121 &</sup>quot;Love the One You're With," Deutsche Bank, March 14, 2017, FIAM-ANAD-007658, at 7658.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>122</sup> "Cobalt International Energy Noteholders Take a Little for a Lot in Debt Exchange," *TheStreet.com*, April 26, 2017.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>123</sup> ©2021 Center for Research in Security Prices (CRSP), The University of Chicago Booth School of Business.

- 59. I also found that Cobalt's issues worsened after the alleged May 2, 2017 corrective disclosures regarding Shenandoah. On May 3, 2017, Citi cut Cobalt's rating from neutral to sell noting that "APC's Shenandoah-6 appraisal results and choice to write-down investment will make it unlikely [Cobalt] will be able to execute any 'material' sale of its interest anytime soon." A few days later, on May 8, 2017, Cobalt reported in its Form 10-Q: "In assessing whether there is substantial doubt about our ability to continue as a going concern, we prepared a detailed cash forecast that included all projected cash inflows and outflows as well as consideration of any cash related covenants associated with our financing structure. ... As this detailed cash flow forecast shows that our projected cash balance would be out of compliance with the minimum consolidated cash balance covenant within one year after the date these unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements are issued, we have concluded that there is substantial doubt about our ability to continue as a going concern." Ultimately, Cobalt filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection on December 14, 2017. 126
- 60. Given the above, Cobalt's stock price movement on May 3, 2017 is not reflective of the price impact of the alleged corrective disclosures concerning Shenandoah on Anadarko.
- 61. I also analyzed Anadarko and its partners' stock price movement on subsequent Shenandoah disclosures by ConocoPhillips (May 5, 2017) and Cobalt (May 8, 2017). After market close on May 4, 2017, ConocoPhillips updated its first-quarter 2017 earnings as a result of Anadarko's "decision to impair the carrying value of Shenandoah in the Gulf of Mexico." ConocoPhillips recorded an additional pre-tax dry hole expense of \$242 million and a pre-tax expense of \$51 million for leasehold impairment. However, on May 5, 2017, there was no statistically significant price change in the stock prices of Anadarko, ConocoPhillips, or Cobalt. See Table 4.

<sup>124 &</sup>quot;Cobalt Intl Cut at Citi as Anadarko Suspends Shenandoah Work," Bloomberg, May 3, 2017.

<sup>125</sup> Cobalt 1Q 2017 Form 10-Q, at p. 9.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>126</sup> "Cobalt International Energy, Inc. Commences Chapter 11 Cases to Facilitate Restructuring," *Business Wire*, December 14, 2017 (6:00 AM).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>127</sup> "ConocoPhillips Provides Update to First-Quarter 2017 Results Based on Subsequent Partner Disclosures and Information," *Business Wire*, May 4, 2017 (4:30 PM).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>128</sup> "ConocoPhillips Provides Update to First-Quarter 2017 Results Based on Subsequent Partner Disclosures and Information," *Business Wire*, May 4, 2017 (4:30 PM).

Table 4
Stock Price Reaction of Anadarko, ConocoPhillips, and Cobalt on May 5, 2017

		Anadarko	ConocoPhillips	Cobalt
Raw Return	[A]	1.25%	1.85%	0.76%
Predicted Return(1)	[B]	2.72%	2.44%	4.46%
Abnormal Return	[C = A - B]	-1.47%	-0.59%	-3.70%
t-Statistic	[D]	-1.31	-0.53	-0.66
Statistically Significant? <sup>(3)</sup>	[E]	No	No	No

Notes: (1) Ferrell Report Appendix D. (2) Statistical significance at the 5% level is denoted by a t-statistic with an absolute value of 1.96 or greater.

62. Before market open on May 8, 2017, Cobalt announced its first quarter 2017 financial results, including a net loss of \$306.3 million compared to a net loss of \$46.6 million one year earlier. Cobalt explained that the "increase in net loss is mainly associated with the write off of Shenandoah well costs and increased interest expense related to Cobalt's December 2016 and January 2017 debt exchanges. However, on May 8, 2017, there was no statistically significant price change in the stock prices of Anadarko, ConocoPhillips, and Cobalt. See Table 5.

Table 5
Stock Price Reaction of Anadarko, ConocoPhillips, and Cobalt on May 8, 2017

	Anadarko	ConocoPhillips	Cobalt
[A]	-0.53%	0.77%	-2.09%
[B]	1.23%	1.04%	1.72%
[C = A - B]	-1.76%	-0.27%	-3.81%
[D]	-1.57	-0.25	-0.67
[E]	No	No	No
	[C = A - B] $[D]$	[A] -0.53% [B] 1.23% [C = A - B] -1.76% [D] -1.57	[B] 1.23% 1.04% [C = A - B] -1.76% -0.27% [D] -1.57 -0.25

Notes: (1) Ferrell Report Appendix D. (2) Statistical significance at the 5% level is denoted by a t-statistic with an absolute value of 1.96 or greater.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>129</sup> "Cobalt International Energy, Inc. Announces First Quarter 2017 Results and Provides Operational Update," *Business Wire*, May 8, 2017 (6:45 AM).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>130</sup> "Cobalt International Energy, Inc. Announces First Quarter 2017 Results and Provides Operational Update," *Business Wire*, May 8, 2017 (6:45 AM).

- 63. The above evidence is consistent with Anadarko's Shenandoah disclosures after market close on May 2, 2017 not having a price impact on Anadarko's stock price on May 3, 2017.
- 64. As discussed above, in addition to the Shenandoah disclosures, there was other news unrelated to Shenandoah that was disclosed contemporaneously. In particular, there was news linking an Anadarko well to a house explosion in Firestone, Colorado that was also disclosed after market close on May 2, 2017. Specifically, Frederick-Firestone Colorado fire officials disclosed that "[a]n explosion that killed two people... was caused by natural gas leaking from an abandoned line that remained attached to a nearby well owned by Anadarko" and Colorado's Governor "ordered inspections of all active and unused natural gas pipelines near occupied buildings." In his deposition testimony, Mr. Steinholt testified that the news related to the Colorado explosion was new information that Anadarko disclosed after market close on May 2, 2017. As analyst reports and news articles explained, Anadarko's stock price on May 3, 2017 was negatively affected by news related to the Firestone, Colorado fire. For example:
  - Reuters noted that "[s]hares of Anadarko Petroleum Corp fell as much as 9.4 percent, a day after the cause of a fatal Colorado home explosion was linked by local fire protection authorities to a nearby well operated by the oil and gas producer...[a]t least two brokerages cut their rating on Anadarko, following the agency's findings."<sup>134</sup>
  - Bloomberg reported: "Anadarko Petroleum Corp. tumbled the most in almost 16 months in New York trading, a day after Colorado officials linked one of the company's wells to a fatal house blast, opening questions on how the probe may play out."
  - Dow Jones explained that "[s]hares of Anadarko Petroleum (APC) are tumbling this
    morning after releasing disappointing first-quarter earnings... but it's the potential

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>131</sup> "Colorado Explosion in April Blamed on Leak Near Anadarko Well," *Dow Jones Institutional News*, May 2, 2017 (7:01 PM).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>132</sup> "The Latest: Colorado checks gas lines after fatal explosion," *The Associated Press*, May 2, 2017 (8:11 PM).

<sup>133</sup> Steinholt Dep. Tr. 42:17-43:2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>134</sup> "Anadarko shares fall after home explosion linked to company well," *Reuters News*, May 3, 2017 (10:30 AM).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>135</sup> "Anadarko Shares Slide After Well Tied to Fatal Blast in Colorado," *Bloomberg News*, May 3, 2017 (11:09 AM).

- overhang from a recent accident that appears to be spurring the massive selloff...[t]he findings of the Firestone investigation are a clear negative for Anadarko" <sup>136</sup>
- Anadarko stock is demonstrated by the price decline of the stocks of firms that were potentially impacted by the new Colorado mandate regarding flow integrity testing disclosed after market close on May 2, 2017.<sup>137</sup>, A Wells Fargo report issued following the news related to the Firestone, Colorado fire downgraded Anadarko, together with SRC Energy and Extraction Oil & Gas, and also identified Noble Energy and PDC Energy as two other names with "meaningful DJ exposure." While the gas leak was linked to a well owned by Anadarko and Anadarko was the largest oil and gas producer in Colorado at the time, <sup>139</sup> as **Figure 1** shows, on May 3, 2017, the other four firms operating in Colorado had statistically significant negative abnormal returns ranging from -4.5% to -7.8%. <sup>140, 141</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>136</sup> "Why Anadarko Petroleum is Crumbling – Barron's Blog," *Dow Jones Institutional News*, May 3, 2017 (10:04 AM).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>137</sup> In his deposition, Mr. Steinholt indicated that "changes to the regulatory environment would not only impact Anadarko, it would impact all the companies doing business in Colorado." See Steinholt Dep. Tr. 29:8-29:11.

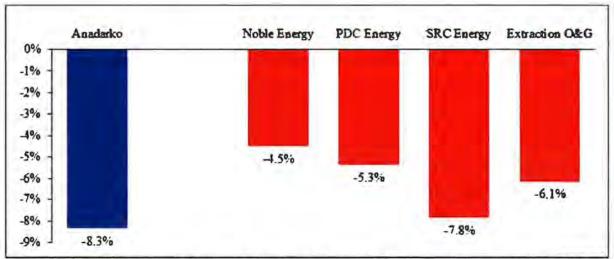
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>138</sup> "E&P: Downgrading APC, SRCI, And XOG," Wells Fargo, May 2, 2017 ("We are downgrading shares of APC, SRCI, and XOG to Market Perform from Outperform. Our downgrade follows what we believe will be an overhang on APC and all DJ Basin players on the heels the preliminary findings regarding the tragic situation in Firestone, CO. Other names with meaningful DJ exposure include Market Perform rated Noble Energy (NBL) and PDC Energy (PDCE)"). In his deposition, Mr. Steinholt acknowledged that Noble "probably was impacted by the Firestone issue." See Steinholt Dep. Tr. 28:8-28:10.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>139</sup> "Colorado Explosion in April Blamed on Leak Near Anadarko Well," *Dow Jones Institutional News*, May 2, 2017 (7:01 PM) (explaining that the gas leak came from "an abandoned line that remained attached to a nearby well owned by Anadarko") & "APC Colorado Shut-ins," Evercore ISI, April 27, 2017 (noting that Anadarko was "the largest oil and gas producer in Colorado").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>140</sup> The methodology for the Noble Energy, PDC Energy, SRC Energy, and Extraction Oil & Gas event studies are described in **Appendix D**. The event study results show Noble Energy had an abnormal return of -4.5% with a t-statistic of -3.86, PDC Energy had an abnormal return of -5.3% with a t-statistic of -3.57, SRC Energy had an abnormal return of -7.8% with a t-statistic of -3.93, and Extraction Oil & Gas had an abnormal return of -6.1% with a t-statistic of -3.09.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>141</sup> I searched the Factiva and Lexis News databases for articles with each company's name in the headline or lead paragraph on May 2-3, 2017. Based on my review of these news articles, I did not find other (i.e., non-Colorado fire) new value-relevant news for these four firms on May 3, 2017 that could explain these four stocks' price decline.

Figure 1 Anadarko and Other Colorado Operators Abnormal Returns on May 3, 2017



Notes: The abnormal returns reported above are based on a regression of the company's return on the returns of the S&P 500 Index and the Modified Steinholt Peer Group Excluding Noble. Ferrell Report Appendix D.

- 66. Given the above, the news about the fire and explosion in Firestone, Colorado explains Anadarko's price decline on May 3, 2017.
- 67. Furthermore, Anadarko's production guidance, which is unrelated to Shenandoah, was also issued contemporaneously with the Shenandoah disclosures and was seen as disappointing by some analysts. In his deposition testimony, Mr. Steinholt testified that the guidance news was new information that Anadarko disclosed after market close on May 2, 2017. For example, a JPMorgan analyst stated that "we expect a mixed reaction to the print given the weaker Q217 guide owing to GoM shut-ins for well tie-ins and maintenance and lingering uncertainty associated with the home explosion incident in the DJ Basin." Similarly, a UBS analyst stated that "[n]o change to 2017 guidance but 2Q volume guide a bit light vs. expectations." In addition, a Barclays analyst stated the "[p]roduction guidance was left

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>142</sup> Steinholt Dep, Tr. 42:17-42:24 ("Q: And what was the new information that Anadarko disclosed after the close of the market on May 2nd?" A: "... they provided guidance that was a little bit disappointing for the second quarter").

<sup>143 &</sup>quot;1Q17 Flash: Unfortunately, It's Déjà Vu All Over Again; Stock Reaction Mixed – ALERT," J.P. Morgan, May 2, 2017, FIAM-ANAD-009291, at 9291.

<sup>1-44 &</sup>quot;Large Exploration Expense Drives 1Q17 EPS/CFPS Miss but EBITDX Beats; Maintain 2017 Guidance," UBS, May 3, 2017.

largely unchanged, but 2Q oil volumes guidance was lower than expected." Thus, in addition to the news about the Firestone, Colorado fire, the price decline on May 3, 2017 was also affected by the soft production guidance disclosure.

#### VIII. The Economic Nature of the Disclosures

68. The lack of price impact of the alleged misstatements as well as the alleged corrective disclosures is consistent with the economic nature of the disclosures. There are three reasons why one would not expect a price impact in response to the alleged misstatements and alleged corrective disclosure. First, as discussed above, Anadarko was in the appraisal stage (i.e., not yet in the development stage) of the Shenandoah project. Shen-2 to Shen-6 were appraisal wells, which are wells drilled "to determine the physical extent, reserves and likely production rate of a field." <sup>146</sup> It is understood that the risk of encountering a dry hole is non-trivial. The chance of success of an appraisal well depends on the probabilities of several risk elements and "if any of the elements fail then we have an unsuccessful appraisal well." <sup>147</sup> The Shenandoah project was not immune to such risk. While Shen-2 discovered oil, Shen-3 was a dry hole. <sup>148</sup> Then, the next two appraisal wells (i.e., Shen-4 and Shen-5) had found oil, but Shen-6 was again a dry hole. <sup>149</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>145</sup> "Results Overshadowed by a Colorado Home Explosion." Barclays, May 4, 2017, AtSos\_00000656, at 0658

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>146</sup> Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission Glossary of Oil and Gas Terms, https://cogcc.state.co.us/COGIS\_Help/glossary.htm (last accessed December 9, 2021).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>147</sup> A. Foum, "Risking Appraisal and Development Wells within Oil and Gas Fields," July 16, 2018, https://www.linkedim.com/pulse/risking-appraisal-development-wells-within-oil-gas-fields-alan-found/ (last accessed December 9, 2021). The risk elements mentioned in the article are SCV (structure, contact, and volume), reservoir presence, reservoir effectiveness, hydrocarbon charge, and trap effectiveness.

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 <sup>&</sup>quot;Anadarko Announces Third-Quarter 2015 Results," Anadarko Press Release, October 27, 2015, at pp.
 1-2: "Anadarko Announces Second-Quarter 2016 Results," Anadarko Press Release, July 26, 2016, at p.

- 69. Second, the riskiness of the Shenandoah project is evidenced by some analysts assigning a low to zero value to Shenandoah given its uncertainty. For example, in a report dated July 6, 2015, despite acknowledging that "Shenandoah could be one of the largest GOM [Gulf of Mexico] discoveries," a Jefferies analyst opined that it gave "no credit" to Shenandoah in their "Risk-Adjusted Asset Value." Also, on April 12, 2016, a Wellington analyst noted: "So in the context of a futures curve, which underpins most M&A deals, the asset [Shenandoah] essentially has zero value. It's all a question of how much option value a buyer wants to assign." Similarly, on May 6, 2016, a JPMorgan analyst stated that, "[a]s a reminder, we do not give value for Shenandoah in our NAV [Net Asset Value] given uncertainty around the project." 152
- 70. Third, throughout the purported Class Period, Anadarko disclosed and analysts acknowledged that, at the then-prevailing oil prices, Anadarko will not sanction (i.e., develop) Shenandoah. For example:
  - On February 2, 2016, a Johnson Rice analyst stated: "Anadarko is continuing to have success with appraisal and delineation of the massive Shenandoah discovery in the Gulf of Mexico, but at the same time the company would not develop the resources at \$30 WTl, given the cost involved." Also, a UBS analyst stated "[Anadarko] will not develop or sanction Shenandoah in the deepwater GoM in a ~\$30/Bbl oil price environment." 154

<sup>1: &</sup>quot;ConocoPhillips Reports First-Quarter 2017 Results; On Track to Delivery 2017 Operating Plan and Accelerate Value Proposition," ConocoPhillips Press Release, May 2, 2017 (7:00 AM) ("First-quarter earnings were negatively impacted by \$101 million of pre-tax dry hole expense, which includes the Shenandoah-6 well in the Gulf of Mexico.").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>150</sup> "Oil & Gas Exploration & Production Reduce Nat Gas Price Outlook, Remain Constructive: Upgrade APC, NBL, EOG," Jefferies, July 6, 2015, JanHen\_00035055, at 5055 ("While we believe Shenandoah could be one of the largest GOM discoveries, we currently give no credit in our RAAV [Risk-Adjusted Asset Value] due to needed improvements in drilling technology (new build drillships with dual 20k PSI BOPs), which are unlikely to be available in the near-term.").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>151</sup> Email from Mark Viviano at Wellington dated April 12, 2016 re "Marathon (MRO,1,\$8B): great WY sale but negative Shenandoah comp for APC/CIE, WMC-APC-0000317-321 at 0321.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>152</sup> "More Positives Than Negatives, But a Few Chinks in the Armor," JP Morgan, May 4, 2016, JPMS 000280 at 0280.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>153</sup> "Oil Volumes Flat in 2016, \$1B+ in Asset Sales Forthcoming," Johnson Rice & Company, February 2, 2016, APC-01167444, at 7445.

<sup>154 &</sup>quot;Preliminary 2016 Volume Guidance More Resilient Than Expectations; Raising 2016-17 CFPS Estimates." UBS February 2, 2016, UBS 0001020, at 1020.

- On April 12, 2016. a Wellington analyst (i.e., a buy-side analyst) noted: "The
  operator [Anadarko] is on record saying they wouldn't sanction [Shenandoah] until
  oil was back in the \$70's given where costs are today."
- On July 28, 2016, a Simmons & Company analyst noted that "[Final Investment Decision] is not imminent. APC has much more appraisal work ahead and wants to drive project costs lower to enhance well economics." 156
- On September 8, 2016, a Simmons & Company analyst stated "APC remains very optimistic about the long-term potential for Shenandoah. However, they are not going to sanction this project at current oil prices." 157
- On March 3, 2017, a Morgan Stanley analyst stated that "[s]anction during 2017 remains unlikely given technically challenging Lower Tertiary project likely requires >\$60/bbl crude to be viable." 158
- On March 24, 2017, Goldman Sachs analysts reported that "[Anadarko] indicated that major Gulf of Mexico greenfield projects like Shenandoah (our target assumes \$1/shr) is unlikely to get final approval in a \$50-\$55 per bbl environment."
- 71. As Figure 2 shows, oil prices never reached \$70 per barrel during the purported Class Period and did not exceed \$60 per barrel beginning June 25, 2015 (i.e., approximately four months after the start of the purported Class Period) through the end of the purported Class Period. In other words, the then-prevailing oil prices throughout the purported Class Period were not at a level that would have made the Shenandoah project economically viable when the alleged misstatements and the alleged corrective disclosure were made. Therefore, this is consistent with Anadarko's decision to suspend appraisal activity at Shenandoah not having a price impact.

Email from Mark Viviano at Wellington dated April 12, 2016 re "Marathon (MRO.1,\$8B): great WY sale but negative Shenandoah comp for APC/CIE, WMC-APC-0000317-321 at 0321.

<sup>156 &</sup>quot;Q2" 16 Earnings Review: Improving Balance Sheet Through Divestitures," Simmons & Company, July 28, 2016, PIPER\_SANDLER-0003791 at 3791.

<sup>157 &</sup>quot;Q3'16 Update: Attractive Valuation – Waiting on Catalysts," Simmons & Company, September 8, 2016. PIPER SANDLER-0003797, at 3798.

<sup>158 \*\*1</sup>Q17: Headwinds Accumulate; Move to EW," Morgan Stanley, May 3, 2017.
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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>159</sup> "Mgmt meeting highlights focus on E&P/midstream growth; Buy," Goldman Sachs, March 24, 2017, at 1, FIAM-ANAD-009176 at 09176.

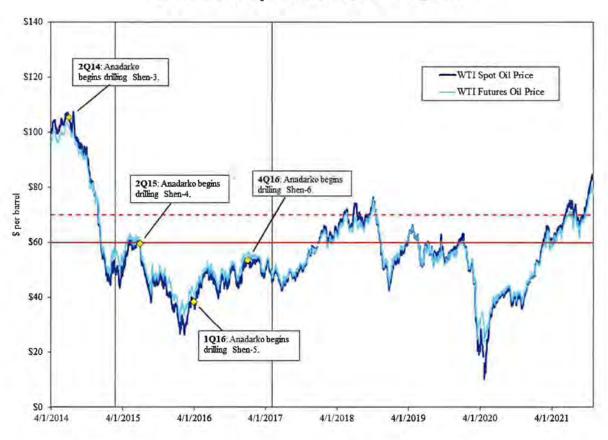


Figure 2 WTI Oil Prices per Barrel: 2Q 2014 – 3Q 2021

Notes: (1) The vertical lines denote the beginning and end of the purported Class Period. (2) The red lines denote the \$60 and \$70 per barrel prices. Source: Bloomberg L.P.

72. By comparison, the recent level of oil prices (see Figure 2) has made the Shenandoah project economically viable, which is consistent with Shenandoah's current operator, Beacon Offshore Energy, announcing its decision to develop Shenandoah on August 25, 2021. As an S&P Global Platts report dated July 26, 2021 explained, "[o]ther large US Gulf projects that could be set for a final investment decision in the near-term include ... Beacon Energy Offshore's Shenandoah ... Offshore appears to be ticking up as current oil prices in the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>160</sup> "Beacon Offshore's Status Projected to Rise Following Shenandoah Project FID," Hart Energy, August 26, 2021, <a href="https://www.hartenergy.com/exclusives/beacon-offshores-status-projected-rise-following-shenandoah-project-fid-195917">https://www.hartenergy.com/exclusives/beacon-offshores-status-projected-rise-following-shenandoah-project-fid-195917</a> (last accessed December 9, 2021).

\$70s/b, couple with growing confidence that more oil will be needed even after newly raised production levels of OPEC+ are eased into the market during the second-half 2021."<sup>161</sup>

# IX. Mr. Steinholt's Statements Regarding His Ability To Calculate Class-Wide Damages In This Case

73. I have also been asked by counsel for Defendants to consider Mr. Steinholt's statements regarding his ability to calculate class-wide damages in this case that is consistent with Plaintiffs' theory of liability. I understand that under *Comcast v. Behrend*, 133 S.Ct. 1426 (2013), Plaintiffs must establish that damages are capable of measurement on a class-wide basis, in a manner that is consistent with Plaintiffs' theory of liability. In his report, Mr. Steinholt opines that "class-wide damages can be calculated in this case using the event-study damages framework". 162 Mr. Steinholt has stated that he will use the same approach (his "event-study damages framework") to damages regardless of whether the theory of liability is a (i) materialization of an undisclosed risk or (ii) the company knew from the outset that Shenandoah was not viable (i.e., the risk of failure was a certainty). 163 Indeed, Mr. Steinholt testified that it was irrelevant for him to know what Plaintiff's theory of liability is. 164 How his "event study damages framework" applies to two very different theories concerning what constitutes corrective information (information concerning the undisclosed risk of failure versus information that the project was going to fail with certainty) is left entirely unexplained.

Dated: December 10, 2021

Allen Ferrell

<sup>161 &</sup>quot;Shell greenlights development of US Gulf of Mexico Whale field," S&P Global Platts, July 26, 2021.

<sup>162</sup> Steinholt Report, ¶ 10.

<sup>163</sup> Steinholt Dep. Tr. 60:11-63:15.

<sup>164</sup> Steinholt Dep. Tr. 69:8-17,

Appendix A

December, 2021

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## Allen Ferrell

Harvard Law School Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138 Telephone: (617) 495-8961 Email: fferrell@law.harvard.edu

#### **CURRENT POSITIONS**

Greenfield Professor of Securities Law, Harvard Law School

Visiting Professor, Stanford Law School

National Bureau of Economic Research, Research Associate

Member of Editorial Board, Journal of Financial Perspectives

Fellow, Columbia University's Program on the Law and Economics of Capital Markets

Faculty Associate, Kennedy School of Government

Research Associate, European Corporate Governance Institute

#### **EDUCATION**

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Ph.D. in Economics, 2005 Fields in econometrics and finance

Harvard Law School, J.D., 1995, Magna Cum Laude

- Recipient of the Sears Prize (award given to the two students with the highest grades)
- · Editor, Harvard Law Review

Brown University, B.A. and M.A., 1992, Magna Cum Laude

#### **PREVIOUS POSITIONS**

Harvard University Fellow Harvard Law School, 1997

Law Clerk, Justice Anthony M. Kennedy Supreme Court of the United States; 1996 Term

Law Clerk, Honorable Laurence H. Silberman
United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia; 1995 Term

#### COURSES TAUGHT

Contracts
Corporate Finance
Law and Finance
Securities Litigation & Regulation

#### REFEREE FOR FOLLOWING JOURNALS

American Law and Economics Review
Journal of Corporation Finance
Journal of Finance
Journal of Financial Perspectives
Journal of Law and Economics
Journal of Law, Economics and Organization
Journal of Legal Studies
Quarterly Journal of Economics

#### CONSULTING AREAS

Price Impact and Securities Damages, Valuation, Mergers & Acquisitions

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Appendix B

### **Materials Relied Upon**

### Case Related Documents

- Amended Complaint for Violations of The Federal Securities Laws, No. 4:20-vc-00576,
   U.S. District Court, Southern District of Texas, Houston Division, filed August 17, 2020
- 2. WMC-APC-0000317

# Expert Report and Deposition

- Expert Report and Exhibits of Bjorn I. Steinholt, CFA, October 1, 2021
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- 577. Goldman Sachs, May 04, 2016
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- 579. Morningstar, May 04, 2016
- 580. Raymond James, May 04, 2016
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- 583. RBC, May 06, 2016
- 584. Evercore, May 08, 2016
- 585. Acquisdata, May 09, 2016
- 586. Morningstar, May 11, 2016
- 587. Piper Sandler, May 12, 2016
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- 598. UBS, May 24, 2016
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- 616. Simmons, June 30, 2016
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All other documents and sources cited in the report and appendices.

Appendix C

## Analysis of Market Efficiency Factors Based On the Factors/Methodology Steinholt Applied to Anadarko

Steinholt Factor	Factor	Anadarko	ConocoPhillips	Cobalt	Noble Energy	Extraction Oil and Gas	PDC Energy	SRC Energy
Trading on NYSE/NASDAQ	(ii)	Trades on NYSE	Trades on NYSE	Trades on NYSE	Trudes on NASDAQ	Trades on NASDAQ	Trades on NASDAQ	Trades on NYSE
Average Weekly Trading Volume	[2]	50.,	10.0	ó°,	50%	400	13%	10%
Analyst Coverage	131	Over 600 analyst reports and over 5,000 news articles on Bloomberg.	Over 700 analyst reports and over 10,000 news articles on Bloomberg.	Over 200 unalyst reports and over 600 news articles on Bloomberg	Over 900 analyst reports and over 4,000 news articles on Bloomberg.	64 analyst reports and over 1,200 news articles on Bloomberg.	Over 500 analyst reports and over 2,100 news articles on Bloomberg.	Over 400 analyst reports and over 2 100 news articles on Bloomberg.
Liquidity Providers and Institutional Investors	[4]	(1) 150 liquidity providers with 41 with volume of at least 1 million shares and (2) Institutions owned at least 86% of shares and more than 1,800 institutional investors owned more than 440 million shares.	(1) 180 liquidity providers with 43 with volume of at least 1 million shares and (2) Institutions owned at least 65% of shares and more than 2,500 institutional investors owned more than 800 million shares.	(1) 130 liquidity providers with 28 with volume of at least 1 million shares and (2) Institutions owned at least 95% of shares and more than 500 institutions owned more than 28 million shares.	(1) 160 liquidity providers with 30 with volume of at least 1 million shares and (2) Institutions owned at least 94% of shares and more than 1,100 institutional investors owned more than 366 million shares.	(1) 110 liquidity providers with 13 with volume of at least 1 million shares and (2) Institutions owned at least 71% of shares and more than 170 institutional investors owned more than 120 million shares.	(1) 160 liquidity providers with 29 with volume of at least 1 million shares and (2) Institutions owned at least 107% of shares and more than 600 institutions owned more than 45 million shares.	(1) 75 liquidity providers with 6 with volume of at least 1 million shares and (2) Institutions owned at least 77% of shares and more than 400 institutions owned more than 80 million shares.
Eligibility to file S-3	[5]	(1) SEC reporting company for at least 12 months; (2) Had \$75 million in voting stock held by non- affiliates; (3) Filed \$-3 on August 12, 2016.	(1) SEC reporting company for at least 12 months; (2) Flnd \$75 million in voting stock held by non- affiliates; (3) Filed \$-3 on May 13, 2015	(1) SEC reporting company for at least 12 months; (2) Had \$75 million in voting stock held by non- affiliates; (3) fried \$-3 on December 22, 2016	(1) SEC reporting company for at least 12 months; (2) Had \$75 million in voting stock held by non- affiliates; (3) Filed S-3 on February 17, 2016	(1) Not an SEC reporting company for at least 12 months; (2) Had \$75 million in voting stock held by non-affiliates. (3) Did not file Form \$-3 during purported Class Period	for at least 12 months; (2) Elad \$75 million in	(1) SEC reporting company for at least 12 months; (2) Had \$75 million in voting stock held by non-affiliates; (3) Filed S-3 on September 11, 2015
Market, Industry, and Company- Specific Information Incorporated Into Stock Price	[6]	market index over purported Class Period shows market index is statistically significant at 5% level; (2) One-factor regression of industry index	market index over purported Class Period shows market index is statistically significant at 5% level; (2) One-factor regression of industry index	market index over purported Class Period shows market index is statistically significant at 5% level; (2) One-factor regression of industry index	market index over purported Class Period shows market index is statistically significant at 5% level; (2) One-factor regression of industry index	market index over purported Class Period shows market index is statistically significant at 5"n level; (2) One-factor regression of industry index	market index over purported Class Period shows market index is statistically significant at 5% level; (2) One-factor regression of industry index	(1) One-factor regression of market index over purported Class Period shows market index is statistically significant at 5% level; (2) One-factor regression of industry index over purported Class Period shows industry index is statistically significant at 5% level; (3) 4 out of 8 financial release dates are statistically significant at the 5% level.
Market Capitalization	[7]	\$15 billion to \$50 billion	\$39 billion to \$85 billion.	\$167 million to \$4.6 billion	\$11 billion to \$21 billion.	\$2.6 billion to \$3.5 billion.	\$1.6 billion to \$4.6 billion.	\$607 million to \$2 billion
Bid-Ask Spread	181	\$0.02 per share or $0.02^{a_{w}}$ of closing price.	\$0.01 per share or 0.02% of elosing price.	S0.13 per share or 0.34% of elesing price.	\$0.01 per share or 0.03% of closing price.	NA	\$0.02 per share or 0.04% of elosing price.	\$0.01 per share or 0.13% of closing price,
Float	191	500 million shares.	1.2 billion shares.	23 million shares.	355 million shares	N/A	35 million shares.	83 million shares

## Analysis of Market Efficiency Factors Based On the Factors/Methodology Steinholt Applied to Anadarko

#### Notes and sources:

The above analysis is based on data from February 20, 2015 through May 2, 2017, except for Extraction Oil & Gas, which starts on October 11, 2016 (i.e., the date of its initial public offering). See "Extraction Oil & Gas, Inc. Press Release, October 11, 2016.

- [1] Exchange fisting per company Form 10-Ks filed from February 20, 2015 to May 2, 2017 with the SEC
- [2]: Steinholt Report, 425. Per Steinholt Report ((xhibit I), average weekly share turnover is calculated from average daily share turnover from February 20, 2017 through May 2, 2017 multiplied by five. Volume data per (\$2021CRSP06, Center for Research in Security Prices, Booth School of Business, The University of Chicago. Used with permission. All rights reserved, www.orsp.chicagobooth.edu; Bloomberg L.P.
- [3] Steinhalt Report, ¶28 Number of analyst reports per S&P Capital IQ. Number of news articles per Bloomberg function CN.
- [4]: Steinholt Report, ¶ 32-33. Number of liquidity providers per Bloomberg function BAS. Institutional holdings data from March 31, 2015 to March 31, 2017 per Thomson Financial.
- [5] Steinholt Report, ¶ 35. Each company's Form S-3 tiling date per SEC EDGAR database. Extraction Oil & Gas, completed its IPO in October, 2016 and filed its S-3 on May 14, 2018. See "Extraction Oil & Gas, Inc. Press Release, October 11, 2016; Extraction Oil & Gas, Inc., Form S-3, May 14, 2018.
- [6]: Steinhoft Report, ¶ 39-41. Company, S&P 500 Index, and industry index returns per 6/2021 CRSP&, Center for Research in Security Prices. Booth School of Business, The University of Chicago. Used with permission. All rights reserved, www.ersp.chicagobooth.edu. Description of the industry indices and financial release dates per Ferrell Report Appendix D. For the "financial release" dates, Mr. Steinholt finds that the cumulative probability of finding at least 5 out of 9 dates being statistically significant at the 5% level using a binomial distribution is 1 in more than 30.000, which exceeds his benchmark of 1 out of 20. Steinholt Report, ¶ 41 and note 55. Using Mr. Steinholt's methodology, the cumulative probability is 1 out of 1/20 for ConcooPhillips, 1 out of 1/556 for Cobalt, 1 out of 30,100 for Noble, 1 out of 10 for Extraction Oil & Gas, and 1 out of 2,690 for both PDC Energy and SRC Energy.
- [7] Steinholf Report, § 47 Market capitalization data per G2021CRSP®, Center for Research in Security Prices, Booth School of Business, The University of Chicago. Used with permission. All rights reserved, www.orsp.chicagobooth.edu; Bloomberg.
- [8] Steinholl Report, 949 Bid-ask spread data per Bloomherg I. P.
- [9] Steinholt Report, 7 51. Float data per Bloomberg L.P.

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Appendix D

### **Description of Regression Models**

 I describe the event study methodology and report the results of my event study for Anadarko, ConocoPhillips, Cobalt, Noble Energy, PDC Energy, SRC Energy, and Extraction Oil & Gas in the text of my report. In this appendix, I describe the regression model and estimation period I use for each of these firms.

## A. Regression Model for Anadarko, ConocoPhillips, and Cobalt

Mr. Steinholt uses a two-factor regression model of Anadarko's returns with the S&P 500 Index as the market index and an equal-weighted index of Anadarko's peers as the industry index. To minimize potential issues that may arise in the choice of regression model and estimation period, I apply Mr. Steinholt's methodology to Anadarko, ConocoPhillips, and Cobalt with one change. In deposition testimony, Mr. Steinholt appears to suggest that if his analysis took into account the alleged fraud he would have not included ConocoPhillips in his peer group. Accordingly, while I also use the S&P 500 Index as the market index for all three of my regression models, I modify Mr. Steinholt's Peer Group by removing ConocoPhillips to exclude the potential effect of the alleged fraud on the peer group returns. In particular, I constructed an equal-weighted portfolio consisting of the returns of Apache Corporation, Chesapeake Energy Corporation, Chevron Corporation, Devon Energy Corporation, EOG Resources, Inc., Hess Corporation, Marathon Oil Corporation, Noble Energy, Inc., Occidental Petroleum Corporation, and Pioneer Natural Resources Company (i.e., "Modified Steinholt Peer Group").3 I use the Modified Steinholt Peer Group as my industry index for all three regression models. The results of my event study are qualitatively similar and, therefore, the conclusions I draw are the same regardless of whether ConocoPhillips is included or excluded from the industry index.4

Steinholt Report, § 37.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Steinholt Dep. Tr. 15:2-8 & 25:17-22.

Mr. Steinholt lists the members of his peer group in Steinholt Report Exhibit D. note 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> As explained below, I also removed Noble from the Steinholt Peer Group when performing an event study on the companies that operate in Colorado (i.e., "Modified Steinholt Peer Group Excluding Noble"). The results of my event study on May 2, 3, 5, and 8, 2017 for Anadarko, ConocoPhillips, and Cobalt using that Modified Steinholt Peer Group Excluding Noble are qualitatively similar to the results

Tollowing Mr. Steinholt's methodology for the estimation period, I use 252 trading days prior to each event date after the exclusion of the company's "financial release" dates (i.e., the estimation period always has 252 observations). For Anadarko, I excluded the same "financial release" dates as Mr. Steinholt. Specifically, I excluded the following dates: May 6, 2014, July 30, 2014, October 29, 2014, February 3, 2015, May 5, 2015, July 29, 2015, October 28, 2015, February 2, 2016, May 3, 2016, July 27, 2016, November 1, 2016, February 1, 2017, and May 3, 2017. For ConocoPhillips, I excluded the following "financial release" dates: May 1, 2014, July 31, 2014, October 30, 2014, January 29, 2015, April 30, 2015, July 30, 2015, October 29, 2015, February 4, 2016, April 28, 2016, July 28, 2016. October 27, 2016, February 2, 2017, and May 2, 2017. For Cobalt, I excluded the following "financial release" dates: February 27, 2014, May 1, 2014, August 5, 2014, November 4, 2014, February 23, 2015, May 5, 2015, August 4, 2015, November 3, 2015, February 22, 2016, May 3, 2016, August 2, 2016, November 1, 2016, and March 14, 2017.

## B. Regression Models for Noble Energy, PDC Energy, SRC Energy, and Extraction Oil & Gas

Energy, SRC Energy, and Extraction Oil & Gas but made some changes. In deposition testimony, Mr. Steinholt appears to suggest that if his analysis took into account the alleged fraud he would have not included ConocoPhillips in his peer group. Also in his deposition, Mr. Steinholt identified Noble Energy as one of the companies that was impacted by the news about the fire and explosion in Firestone, Colorado. Accordingly, while I also use the S&P 500 Index as the market index for all of my regression models, I modify Mr. Steinholt's Peer Group by removing both ConocoPhillips and Noble to exclude the potential effects of the alleged fraud and news of the fire and explosion in Firestone, Colorado on the peer group returns. In particular, I constructed an equal-weighted portfolio consisting of the returns of Apache Corporation, Chesapeake Energy Corporation, Chevron Corporation, Devon Energy Corporation, EOG Resources, Inc., Hess Corporation, Marathon Oil Corporation, Occidental Petroleum

of using the Modified Steinholt Peer Group and, therefore, the conclusions I draw are the same regardless of whether I exclude Noble from the Modified Steinholt Peer Group or not.

Steinholt Dep. Tr. 15:2-8 & 25:17-22.

<sup>6</sup> Steinholt Dep. Tr. 28:8-10.

Corporation, and Pioneer Natural Resources Company as the "Modified Steinholt Peer Group Excluding Noble". I use the Modified Steinholt Peer Group Excluding Noble as my industry index for all four regression models. The results of my event study are qualitatively similar and, therefore, the conclusions I draw are the same whether or not one excludes ConocoPhillips and Noble from the industry index.

Following Mr. Steinholt's methodology for the estimation period, I use 252 trading days prior to May 3, 2017 after the exclusion of the company's "financial release" dates (i.e., the estimation period always has 252 observations) for Noble Energy, PDC Energy, and SRC Energy. Because it completed its IPO on October 12, 2016, I used an estimation period from October 13, 2016 to May 2, 2017 for Extraction Oil & Gas. Then, I excluded the respective "financial release" dates of each firm from the estimation period. For Noble Energy, I excluded the following "financial release" dates: April 24, 2014, July 24, 2014, October 28, 2014, February 19, 2015, May 5, 2015, August 3, 2015, November 2, 2015, February 17, 2016, May 4, 2016, August 3, 2016, November 2, 2016, February 14, 2017, and May 2, 2017. For PDC Energy, I excluded the following "financial release" dates: February 20, 2014, May 6, 2014, August 8, 2014, November 6, 2014, February 19, 2015, May 7, 2015, August 10, 2015, November 5, 2015, February 22, 2016, May 6, 2016, August 9, 2016, November 3, 2016, and February 28, 2017. For SRC Energy, I excluded the following "financial release" dates: April 4, 2014, July 9, 2014, October 28, 2014, January 9, 2015, April 9, 2015, July 9, 2015, October 16, 2015, January 8, 2016, May 4, 2016, August 5, 2016, November 4, 2016, and February 24, 2017. For Extraction Oil & Gas, I excluded the following "financial release" dates: November 8, 2016 and March 14, 2017.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Mr. Steinholt lists the members of his peer group in Steinholt Report Exhibit D, note 2